

# RECREATION

*Formerly THE PLAYGROUND*

January 1936

Twenty-first National Recreation Congress

Recreation in the  
Future  
To Come  
David Cushman

The Education of Recreation  
of the National  
Conrad L. Wilson

When the Recreation Educators Meet

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# To Whom Does the River Belong?

To whom does the river belong?

To the boy and girl in the canoe, gliding along in the moonlight.

To whom is the bay and its islands and the rocky shore line?

To him who silently sails it.

Who has leased the ocean?

He who swims it, jumps its breakers, who knows it at midnight  
and midday, who understands its many voices.

Who has most shares in the sun?

He who takes time to bathe his body in its rays.

In whose name is the deed to the woods?

In his name who tramps it, who wades its brooks, who sees its  
wild flowers and reads its signs.

Who owns the mountain?

He who climbs it and lies on its summit and watches the clouds  
go by.

To whom does the craft of the world belong?

To him who knows and can use the tools, who can see and  
understand its beauty.

For whom are the gardens?

For those whose hands love the soil, whose eyes can watch the  
growth from day to day, for those who lose themselves in  
its beauty.

For whom are the books and the thoughts of all ages?

For those who can read and for those who can think.

For whom is the music, for whom is the art of the world?

For those who can hear it, for those who can see it.

*Howard Braucher*

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JANUARY 1936

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## A New Year Is With Us



*Courtesy Minnesota Municipalities, December 1935*

Ring out the old, ring in the new,  
Ring, happy bells, across the snow;  
The year is going, let him go;  
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

—Tennyson.



# Recreation in the Years to Come

**I**T IS NECESSARY for me to say, in speaking about the age of plenty and measures that need to be taken to adapt ourselves to it, that I am speaking only as a consulting engineer and in a private capacity. I am not representing the government. My relation to the government and to my other clients is that of a consultant, which is the same thing as a professional back seat driver. I am not responsible for what my clients decide to do and they are not responsible for what I say.

The technological revolution has had many wild words said about it on both sides of the argument, but the real, historical and important change in human affairs, the most spectacular aspect of the technological revolution is the appearance of electric instruments. The machine age for more than a century has been gradually changing the productivity of man, but has been calling for an increasing volume of capital and an increasing volume of labor. Now comes the electric instrument, such as the thermostat, which takes the place of man as a machine tender. Now we have come to the time when the power age calls for decreasing quantities of labor and even decreasing quantities of capital, as the productive power of the race continues to increase.

In agriculture similar things are happening. The new science of agronomy is threatening to do things that will make your eyes pop. Apparently within our lifetime a few of our best acres, with a few of our best farmers, can supply all the food we need, and even all the industrial materials that we can make by agricultural methods.

Some people think that the way to get rid of the surplus laborers in industry is to send them back to the farms. Other experts think the way to get rid of the surplus farmers is to find jobs for them in industry. There is very little to be looked for by shifting from one to the other the crews of two sinking ships. Still other people think that in capital goods we can find an opportunity for the labor of our surplus population. Capital goods construction is also beginning to be affected by technology. Pre-fabricating is

By DAVID CUSHMAN COYLE

still in its infancy but apparently has possibilities. In manufacturing, on the farm, and in capital goods, the opportunity for human beings to be employed is diminishing, and so far as we are now able to see it will diminish further and permanently. There is apparently no evidence of anything but a further increase in the volume of technological unemployment. If people are to be employed at all and not simply left upon doles they must be employed in services, the only form of human activity that does not depend upon unlimited quantity of raw materials and electric power.

## Problems of Over-Production

Plenty is a situation in which the characteristic maladjustments of the social order do not center in difficulties of production as they do in scarcity countries like China, but center primarily in difficulty in getting rid of the products. You can look at the United States and see what troubles we are in. Why do we have to have the AAA? It was the difficulty in getting rid of products. The characteristic of the plenty stage of evolution is that the difficulty is not in finding workers but in finding work. That is our situation. That situation has come to nearly the whole Western world.

There are two possible ways of getting out of the troubles we are now in. One would be to let loose those races that are able to increase their numbers faster than technology can catch up. If that were to occur it might be possible to overrun the lands with people fast enough to destroy forever the possibility of plenty, and all the problems of plenty, in that way easing the strain on

**Less "tea-room art" but more music, drama and hobbies; the opportunity to live dangerously; recreation activities that are red-blooded, vital and have vitamins—all this we may expect in the years that are to come!**

our minds at the expense of letting the Malthusian law loose on humanity. But the Western world has discovered the way to plenty. We have got our technology running ahead of our population.

Apparently what is happening abroad at the present time is the organization of the world to hold in place the nations that are still in the expansive mood, until such time as all the world is prepared to take on technology and utilize the possibilities of plenty. If that occurs, if those nations that are not overcrowded are able to hold their lines, then the chance of civilization occurring on earth within the next few hundred years appears to be excellent.

Services in a country like the United States, a plenty country with adequate natural resources, with adequate technology, without too much population—constitute the answer, and the only answer, to technological unemployment. But technology is not a disease for which the services are the cure. On the contrary, the necessity of working eighteen hours a day and the poverty of recreational and cultural services that characterized our pioneer period were the disease for which technology is the cure.

At the moment we have a bad case of indigestion because we had more of the cure than we could absorb, but we must recognize that the purpose and function of technology is to destroy the necessity or the opportunity for great numbers of men to work eighteen hours a day, and give them time for recreation. It is also its function to destroy the necessity for people to be insecure. We are prepared to create a sufficient surplus so that we can guarantee security to all our people regardless of their age, their health, their skill or their adequacy. We can treat them as members of the human family, as we would treat members of our own family. Those who are capable and able to work can be given the opportunity to work, and those who are incapable can be supported by the rest of us, and easily, so that we do not need to be insecure.

"David Cushman Coyle," said Dr. John H. Finley in his introduction, "is an author, lecturer and consulting engineer. Even before the depression he was one of those who had begun to feel that a larger proportion of the wealth of the nation should be invested in cultural services. As the numbers of unemployed began to increase, his voice was increasingly heard urging that more employment opportunities be created in parks, recreation centers, museums and other educational, recreational and cultural services. The whole recreation movement is indebted to Mr. Coyle for his keen analysis and for his effective championing of the importance of the cause in which we are engaged."

The essential adaptation to high productivity is the diversion of the surplus national income into expenditures for the kind of work recreation leaders do, and that is a purely technical matter, regardless of morals, regardless of justice, or right and wrong. In order to make the machinery run it is essential that people who never again will have an opportunity to be returned to the production and distribution of goods should obtain income by working in service occupations that they may have the money to buy their share of goods.

That is the adaptation that has always occurred wherever the human race has found itself in conditions of plenty. Never before has the human

race found a plenty country on such a scale numerically as that which faces us now, but it has happened before sporadically and temporarily, on a small scale, in the South Sea Islands, occasionally in Europe, and various places, and in history we see the outburst of a civilization or a culture, savage or civilized, according to circumstances.

#### Human Nature a Changeable Phenomenon

Human nature, under conditions of economic security, is quite a differ-

ent thing from the human nature that we are accustomed to. Culture naturally bursts forth when people are released from danger of poverty and starvation. It did not burst forth in the United States only because we are so complicated, that we are unable to understand our own system. But where the numbers of people are not so great, as in the South Sea Islands, when they found themselves in the situation where all the material goods they could possibly make out of their natural resources took them only an hour or two a day, then naturally, without any philosophy or anyone telling them anything, it appeared obvious to them that there was no point in catching more fish and then plowing them under, and no point in their making more canoes or more fish spears than they could use and being unemployed because they didn't know what to do with them. Just as soon as they found that they had enough to eat

and all the clothing they wanted, they occupied the rest of the time dancing, swimming, and making love and generally amusing themselves. That was the natural and normal adaptation to a situation in which life was easy.

Their human nature was quite different from our own. We have a tendency to a characteristic meanness of thought which is a real social danger. We are mean even in our virtues. Thrift appears to us to be a virtue, an astonishing perversion of normal human instincts due of course to the time when thrift was necessary for social reasons. We tend to be timid; we tend to be "yes" men; we are afraid if we lose our jobs we can't get others, and we are cautious not to stick our necks out, as we say. Caspar Milquetoast is the typical American. That is why we all understand him so well and view his exploits with so much sympathy. He is ourselves. Generosity and recklessness among us are so unusual that they excite remark. Among the South Sea Islanders to be generous and hospitable was so normal and instinctive that I doubt if they had any word in their language for it. Poverty never occurred to them. How could it? The idea that man was economically determined would not be a thought that could be translated into their language. The South Sea Islanders were always young. They were young at all ages. Melville describes them as always laughing, gay, reckless, and irresponsible. They never took thought for the morrow. They had many of the Homeric virtues. They were always looking for physical danger, having no economic danger to keep their minds occupied.

We can expect that if and when we solve the problem of plenty, when we come through our present mal-adjusted period of economic indigestion to a place where we

are able to make our high technology system run, we shall make it run by devices of social order that will give us economic security and our human nature will snap into a different form. It will snap quickly. Human nature, of course, is not supposed to be changeable, but as a matter of fact we know it is the most changeable phenomenon that is known to biology. The reason people are different from animals is because the animals are comparatively unchangeable, but human beings change with great rapidity and in all sorts of directions.

Historically, we remember the time of Elizabeth when after the persecutions and burnings at Smithfield were over, English ships were capturing gold from the Spaniards, the time came when a single ship sailing up the Thames carried enough treasure on board to pay off the national debt. Those days came on suddenly, and suddenly the whole English race snapped into an age of cultural activity and gaiety that we now remember as the Elizabethan period. Then it snapped back in the period of the Stuarts. Those changes occurred rapidly.

We can expect within our own life time, if we get our adjustment to plenty, as there is some chance of our doing—we can expect to see human beings quite different from what we have always thought they were.

#### A Glimpse Into the Recreational Future

The characteristic of youth lasting through life which is so common under conditions of economic



Sports having in them elements of danger will make a strong appeal



security will naturally affect the demand for recreation and for cultural activity of all kinds. You can expect many of the things that you now observe among the more youthful types to be more widespread among people of all ages. Curiosity of the scientific type rather than of the intellectual type is likely to be more widespread. Intellectual activity many times is apt to be the product of social pain or fear, but the curiosity of a boy who reads popular science is the kind we would expect to increase. Hobbies of various kinds will grow. Creative activity, the use of the hands in tasks that require skill, has been suppressed in the case of many people because they had used too much of their minds worrying about the rent. It is difficult, as you know, for anyone whose whole mind is one vast toothache because of the fact that he has no job and doesn't know when he will be thrown out of the house, to get any real joy out of using tools in the basement. You can expect an increase of those types of activity.

It seems likely, however, in view of our previous experience of human nature in time of plenty, that the most important of all new characteristics which will appear is the insistent demand for physical danger. Of course you see it now in the desire to drive automobiles and drive them fast, and the desire to fly. That desire will probably increase. Young people must have danger or their minds will be warped. Young men, and probably young women, can't live normally without the risk of life, and as we continue our youth longer toward old age, the age at which we must have danger will probably be continued. We have lost many of our old opportunities for the normal operation of the desire for dangerous activities. War, since it has developed to the point that the combatants can't see each other any more, has lost the vitamins it used to have in Homeric times when, as Homer says, Menelaus was noted because he was good at yelling "boo." Menelaus was close enough to the enemy so he could go into battle with sword and shield, yelling to scare them off. Now one nation, playing with the idea of war, is hoping to scare all the savages by shooting off things from a long distance at them. Even personal fighting has ceased to have the vitality that it used to have in the days when people came to close quarters.

The necessity for finding ways of sport in which the danger of death is always present will be one

of the things that I think you will need to keep in mind. No sports that are safe have the necessary vitamins. Sports that are safe may be amusing, but somewhere in the environment of normal people they are going to find ways of subjecting themselves to possible death, whether sailing a small boat across the Atlantic, whether flying or gliding, whatever it may be, or whether only playing football, there has got to be something where they feel justly that a certain percentage of them will not live through.

The herd instincts, the tendency for people to want to be in groups, to do things together, you may also expect will increase in their appeal as people are freed from the humiliation of unemployment and of economic fear. There is a tendency which no doubt you have noticed for people to retire into their holes to die as despair comes on them. When they are released from that they are likely to come out of their holes and want community activity; they will want to do together things like drama and music, and those things will need to be organized for them and facilities will need to be provided. But I think we should keep in mind the fact that they will need to have things that are red-blooded, and that are vital, and that have vitamins.

This leads me to speak of art and handicraft. In the first place art, like religion, has been used in times past, and particularly in the times through which we are passing, as an anodyne for despair. It was necessarily, in many cases, the only medicine that was available to people who were humiliated, who were prostrate, whose emotional lives were warped and twisted by inability to find a place in the world. That is the best you can do in many cases, but we should not regard it as a desirable thing that the arts of life should be only a drug to keep people alive who are subjected to despair when despair is unnecessary and when they should be cured, when we should use our own minds to find means to release them from despair.

Last year at one of your meetings I was shocked at what appeared to me to be a thoughtless acceptance of the fact that you can get young people to serve as volunteers, young unemployed people, in programs, and so save your budget. I think you should curse your budget. If you can't do anything better, all right, get them, but don't sleep peacefully of nights! It is an outrage that young people should be in a position where their idealism



can be drawn upon by the community without pay, to be used for helping the conditions of the community. Those young people need first of all money—money to marry, money to buy a home, to have babies, to buy clothes, theater tickets. After that call on them for idealism. But to expect young people to live on love and fresh air is an outrage on humanity, and it is an outrage to expect them, with despair in their hearts, not knowing where they are going to get enough to eat, not knowing how they will find a place to live, to come out and do for nothing for the community what the community should pay for! It is not a situation that should be taken easily and you should not find satisfaction in the fact that it saves your budget.

I think we should not expect, in the age of plenty, that there will be a great increase in anemic art. After many thousands of miles of automobile travel I have been impressed with what seems to me the fact that the world already has enough painted china dogs and birch bark picture frames. Those things do not represent the joy of life. They represent, as you know, a bitter and sometimes hopeless struggle to wring a small living out of a hostile world. I think we can expect that the great outburst of culture which is the only possible adjustment to plenty will not take the form of tea-room art.

On the other hand, I think you can consider that if we are in for an age of civilization, that civilization will run the gamut from higher art at the top to an outburst of unplanned and uncontrolled vulgarity at the bottom. We are inclined to think of the old civilizations as having been highbrow because of the fact that only pieces of them have come down to us. The Age of Pericles gave us the Parthenon, and in those days the great Greek dramas were written and played, but we sometimes forget that Aristophanes seems highbrow only because he is in Greek. In those days Aristophanes was in the same class with Mae West and our beloved Will Rogers, and as for the cheaper drama of Pericles' time, it was probably, from what little we know of it, considerably lower in the cultural scale than our cheapest vaudeville. And you remember that in Elizabeth's time, in Shakespeare's time, when some of our greatest

**"It is easier to minimize than to overestimate the significance of play in our national life. We seem as a people to be moving toward a more equitable distribution of income and leisure time. Both changes are profoundly significant, the latter no less than the former. For on the intelligent use of our surplus time depend the distribution of the imponderables, the diffusion of education, the sharing of the health, cultural and artistic values of life."—R. Worth Frank in *Social Progress*, January 1935.**

dramas were written, the common people liked their humor as broad as it was long. You can count on it that any vital age that may come will be characterized by the unprintable public taste that was characteristic of all other great cultural ages. It will not be pretty; it will not be built on cute little ideas, and it will be full of vitamins and red blood. One of

our greatest legal lights, one of our most learned judges, sitting in a burlesque show, turned to a neighbor and said, "Thank God I have vulgar tastes."

In looking forward to the development of recreation in the future it is desirable to realize the comparatively large amount of red blood that will be in the demands of the people as they are freed from economic fear and as their temperament varies more and more widely from that of Caspar Milquetoast. I think in educating ourselves towards the future, or preparing for the time when we will have to deal with the young people of all ages, it would be desirable to study with discrimination the history of our own wild and woolly West. There, for a time, in some places, a man could always get a job. He could go and get a job for \$30.00 a month herding cattle with nothing to spend his money for until he got a chance to go to town. Under those circumstances he was quite different from the Americans that we are accustomed to meet now. He had those same characteristics of the South Sea Islander although of a different race and under such different conditions. He was reckless and irresponsible, gay and young. He toted a gun and he was always looking for danger, being free of economic danger, for he knew whenever he was broke he could go and get another job. He went out looking for chances to risk his life. The American people in a comparatively short time, finding the conditions of the West suitable for development of the Homeric Age, developed it quickly. The personnel, the population, to engage in the Homeric life of the West appeared out of the American people without any delay, and we can expect that it will appear again as soon as the economic conditions make a proper place for it, and it will appear all over the country this time. You should begin to adjust your mind to the fact that the America of

the Age of Plenty will have in many respects more of the characteristics of the wild and woolly West than it will have of the bread lines of our big cities. Under those circumstances I can see that we are going to be required to plan and to maintain facilities for outdoor activity of many kinds and on a scale that at the present time would seem fantastic.

### Ours Is a Big Country

This is a big country. I don't consider that I am doing my duty to my country if I stand any place and fail to say that this is a big country, that "you ain't seen anything yet," you don't know what you are looking at! A real American ought to have a map of the United States in his office or in his house, and he should go with his mind along the tremendous distances of our country. If you can't travel yourself, go in your mind across the plains and the mountains. Consider how long it would take you even to fly from one place to another in the United States. If you can sit as I did the last twenty-four hours, when I wasn't in bed, and see the tremendous miles of our country even from Washington to Chicago—and from Washington to Chicago could be put inside the state of Texas—you will realize that this is a big country. Think about the map of the United States. Walk all around it in your mind. Suppose that all the people of the United States, without getting tired and without stopping to rest or do anything else, should start to march past the White House to be reviewed by the President, eight abreast, old and young, black and white, men, women and children. If the procession started down to Florida, across to New Orleans, then to San Diego, up to the Canadian Border, back across to the coast of Maine, and down to Baltimore, eight abreast, 12,500 miles of them, the President could sit there and see them go by day and night for three months and still they would come. This is a big country. What is a billion dollars to us? I will tell you what a billion dollars is. It is \$8.00 apiece, less than what you spend for the morning paper in a year. A billion dollars is the pennies that you take out of your pocket and give to the newsboy. But "you ain't seen anything yet!" What is four billion dollars? Four newspapers.

The United States has been losing at least forty billion dollars a year by staying in this depression. That is what it costs us to be parsimonious; that is what it costs the United States not to get

out of this depression. We have lost enough by not working and by not running our machinery for the past five years to have bought the whole United States, lock, stock and barrel. If we can spend money, if we can find ways of making those who have money spend money, that money is added to the national income. It adds about two and one-half times to the national income because whoever gets it spends it and someone else gets it. Study of the CWA indicates that for every \$10.00 spent about \$25.00 was added to the national income. That indicates the vacuum into which you are pouring your program of expansion, not only of physical construction but of personnel. This is a big country and everything that you have done so far—what has that to do with forty billion dollars a year? Begin to stretch your minds! There is a lot ahead of us!

### Out of the Caterpillar Stage

Another thing that I wish you would consider is the fact that this is not the culmination of our civilization. We have not, in three hundred years, come to the top of the history of America. Think of this little fact. For five hundred years there was a colony in Greenland. It had a bishop from Rome. The records are in the Vatican. And Europe forgot it. For five hundred years white men lived in America and then they disappeared and were forgotten. Some of their descendants are there yet and are called Eskimos. Do you realize that we have been here only three hundred years? We have two hundred years to go to be as old as the Greenland colony was before it vanished from the face of the earth and history had no further knowledge of it. We are only kids; we have just arrived. All we have done in this country is to get control of its natural resources. That was the caterpillar stage. We had nothing to do but eat and grow fat. We have eaten and we have grown fat; even our minds are fat. And now we have reached a stage of complete fatness of mind and body, represented by the way we have behaved since the war. Who but a bunch of fatheads could behave that way?

Having reached the stage of complete fatheadedness, we have fallen into the stage of the chrysalis during which the creature has neither arms or legs and lies helpless to all the winds that blow and gradually uses up its substance, while inside of it obscure vital forces are rearranging all the molecules in preparation for its birth. You realize

(Continued on page 519)

# When Recreation Executives Meet

Mutual problems are discussed, warnings are sounded and optimism is expressed!

**T**HE FIRST SESSION of the morning meeting of the recreation executives, presided over by Dorothy C. Enderis of the Department of Municipal Recreation and Adult Education, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, was a symposium on public school participation in recreation with a backward look over the progress of the past five years and an exploratory glimpse into the coming five-year period.

Floyd A. Rowe, Director of the Department of Physical Welfare, Board of Education, Cleveland, Ohio, reported that facts he had gathered from a number of cities showed an increase in the recreation facilities of boards of education for public use through the utilization of grounds for summer playgrounds and of buildings for winter activities. There has been a definite recognition of responsibility for the teaching of certain skills and subject matter to children by boards of education to prepare them for the better use of their present and future leisure time. This is manifest in the recommendation of the social studies program, in the increase of extra curricular activity—fifty-two different kinds of club activities are listed—and in the extension of the physical activities program by way of the intramural program which has come into prominence in the past few years. In Cleveland the junior high schools have abandoned their interschool athletics to devote more time to intramural athletics for all the children.

The developments of the past five years in school recreation have been in the right direction. What is going to happen in the next five years?

In one city a committee has been appointed to study

for a year what the schools can do and to submit a report in November 1936. In another the board of education has decided to open twenty buildings as free community centers. A number of communities indicate that the number and importance of school playgrounds will increase greatly in the next few years because of the new emphasis being placed on education for leisure in the public schools.

"These are typical," said Mr. Rowe, "of developments throughout the country. The outlook is encouraging."

In the discussion which followed Mr. Rowe's paper the opinion was expressed that the progress made by the schools in recreation has been due to a large degree to the impetus given by community recreation programs. Further, it seemed the consensus of opinion that intraschool athletics are growing in favor and that they offer advantages over the system of intermural competition while retaining the desirable element of competition.

## Cooperation Between Recreation and Adult Education

In an attempt to outline a basis for cooperation between recreation systems and adult education programs, A. W. Thompson, Director of Recreation and Physical Education, Grand Rapids, Michigan, defined education as "a continuous process of receiving experience or having experiences each of which leaves some impress upon us as individuals. In that case we are the sum total of experiences which we had in the days that have gone before." "If educa-

On September 30th, immediately preceding the opening of the National Recreation Congress at Chicago, recreation executives discussed in morning and afternoon sessions, their mutual problems and planned together for future developments. While only executives of city, county or state systems participated in the discussions, many workers from municipal systems and State Emergency Recreation Programs were present as interested listeners, and the attendance was unusually large. A brief summary of some of the more important points raised in the discussions is presented here.



cation is that broad," said Mr. Thompson, "then there is a question as to whether there is any such thing as adult education or whether education stops at the time when an individual finishes formal schooling, whether it be in the high school, the college or university or a graduate school."

Mr. Thompson raised the question as to whether a new era is dawning for adults in which they are to have the opportunities which formerly terminated for them at the close of high school or college, or whether the present situation as it relates to adult education is due to the stimulus of federal funds.

Some of the differences of opinion between recreation and education have perhaps been grounded in an academic difference of opinion. "Is there any real difference between what you are trying to do in the development of recreational opportunities and the experiences which are being set up in the educational field? Are those of us in education and those of us in recreation thinking in terms of service to all people or are we thinking in terms of an academic question and the differences between the two?" "To me," said Mr. Thompson, "there is no difference between a recreative experience that may be educative and an educative experience which may be recreative."

In the discussion which followed the point was made that the attempt to draw a hard and fast line between adult education and recreation is creating some problems. It is impossible to say that music and drama are adult education while softball belongs to recreation. Nor is it feasible to make age the line of demarcation. To draw such distinctions will be particularly difficult in rural districts. The question of the number of hours of service given under the WPA set-up also adds to the problem.

It was agreed that while there are undoubtedly problems ahead, it will be a most interesting experience to find out what can be done under a plan of cooperation.

#### **How Far Have Recreation Departments Been Able to Work with Police Departments and Other Agencies Attempting to Provide Constructive Programs for Juvenile Delinquents and Pre-Delinquents?**

Ernest W. Johnson, Superintendent of Playgrounds in St. Paul, Minnesota, described the plan which St. Paul has worked out successfully of having a Juvenile Division in the Police Depart-

ment with a lieutenant as the active head. All juveniles in difficulties are brought before the lieutenant. If they have committed misdemeanors, damaged property or are extremely mischievous, they are referred to Mr. Johnson as head of the Playground Bureau and it becomes his task to adjust them to the playground program. As these boys are brought to the Juvenile Division they are kept under observation for a considerable time in order that their interests may be discovered. Activities are then provided through which, in their own groups, they may have the forms of recreation which seem to appeal to them most. They are permitted to do the things they formerly have done such as playing cards and rolling dice, but under very different circumstances and without the usual accompaniments. They are organized into football teams consisting of their own members, with rules simplified, and they are allowed to "rough-house" all they want without being held down to routine rules.

Boys who violate the rules of the playground are temporarily suspended from the grounds and are brought before Mr. Johnson. These boys are usually anxious to return to the playground and after a warning and a pledge of good behavior, Mr. Johnson gives them a letter permitting them to return. He seldom finds it necessary to send any of these boys to the probation office and as far as possible avoids having them recorded on the books of the police administration.

The question was raised as to the desirability of keeping these boys in their own groups when they participate in recreation activities. "How will they adjust themselves to the social order if they are kept separate in a gang program?" Mr. Johnson's reply was that they are not ostracized and that the method used is simply a means of giving them a picture of the play program and is the medium through which they are gradually integrated into community life. While the other boys on the playground know that the newcomers represent a delinquency group because the eligibility rules used for them are different from those of the formal set-up and it is necessary to fit the boys into the gang team regardless of age and size, the fact is never emphasized and is accepted.

A number of cities gave their experiences in juvenile delinquency prevention treatment. In Reading, Pennsylvania, the Police Commissioner reports all difficulties with gangs to the Recreation Department. Through the funds made avail-



able by the Emergency Education Program in Pennsylvania it has been possible to get these boys into a school gymnasium and to give them all types of rough-house activities including boxing, wrestling and games. The Department has been fortunate in being able to secure good leaders; some have been athletic stars in college and they are able to put on boxing gloves with the best of the gang.

In San Francisco the Chief of Police meets every two weeks with the Superintendent of Schools, the Superintendent of Recreation, the chief probation officer and the Director of Public Health and Community Welfare to discuss problems with which all are concerned. He has organized his young officers into a Big Brother movement. In one particularly serious instance of a gang of older boys, a young officer has organized the gang into recreational groups at a neighborhood house in the district. This effort has met with great success. Cooperation of agencies, Josephine D. Randall, Superintendent of Recreation in San Francisco, California, feels will go far to solve problems of delinquency.

In Oakland, California, when a number of children in any one district show signs of becoming troublesome the Recreation Department immediately organizes through the department or some other recreational-educational agency activities in which it believes the children will be interested and invites them to take part. The activities are varied in scope and no distinction is made between delinquent boys and girls and others.

Los Angeles, California, has a coordinating council in a number of districts in which all recreational-educational organizations, P. T. A's, schools, churches and other neighborhood groups have one representative. The various councils meet weekly to discuss problems in their immediate neighborhoods and ways of solving them through school, settlement, recreational or other facilities available. The lieutenant of the Police Department in charge of juvenile delinquency is a member. Very often when the court has taken action in the case of a certain gang the group has been taken to the playground where facilities have

**"Periodical reporting to the office by the child is a superficial proceeding of little value, and is often harmful. The probation officer must have the interest and the vision not only to see the child's present viewpoint but to look with him into the future. He must establish contacts with the child and his family and try to improve family relations. He must be able to enlist the resources of the community to the end that the home, church, school, courts, recreation department and other social agencies may work together in the child's behalf."—John K. Donohue, Deputy Probation Officer, St. Paul.**

been assigned to them at times when they are not being used by other groups.

### Higher Standards in Public Recreation

Arthur P. Eckley, Director of Recreation, Two Rivers, Wisconsin, in opening his discussion having to do with the interpretation of the philosophy underlying recreation work and its principles and standards, said that leadership was perhaps the chief

element involved in standards. He raised the question, "Have we been able to maintain the standards which we have built up?" In 1929 the theme of the Recreation Congress at Louisville was leadership. At that time institute work was well under way; a great many people had received recreational training and budgets of recreation departments were at their peak. Recreation leaders were in a position to crystallize opinion regarding standards of leadership in the recreation field. Immediately afterward came the depression. Budgets were slashed and it became impossible in many instances to pay for the kind of leadership desired. Too often the leaders available through FERA programs were untrained and had to be fitted to the position. As a result standards of leadership, Mr. Eckley believes, have been lowered. He warned against the danger of accepting unqualified people under pressure from government offices with the necessity of placing people in positions, or of yielding to the temptation of getting something for nothing.

Another danger which Mr. Eckley believes recreation leaders may be facing is a loss, through the activities promoted, in those character values which originally gave impetus to the recreation movement. In too many cases recreation leaders have been creating bodily values at the expense of esthetic values. "If we are going to be just a machine and operate only a system in which certain people are supposed to play basketball, and we have painters and artists who are in the basketball program simply because we as recreation workers have set that up as a standard, we are going to lose out. We must retain those character values and impress on the public the fact that these are what we stand for."

This presentation led to considerable discussion. Some of those present felt that when the necessity is faced of cutting the program to a point where the community will suffer for lack of recreational opportunities, it is preferable to take untrained workers and maintain standards as far as is possible under the circumstances. Safeguards, a number of executives pointed out, can be set up by placing emergency workers under the leadership of trained supervisors. This was felt to be most important. In San Francisco as many as 500 emergency recreation workers a day have been used under competent supervision of members of the staff. Another safeguard lies in giving as much training as possible to the emergency workers through institutes, conferences, and discussion of problems. It was pointed out that in large cities there are many people available in emergency programs who have had training in physical education, recreation, and the arts, and who should be given every opportunity to take responsibility. It is in the smaller communities where the programs are primarily on a relief basis that the chief danger lies.

Testimony from a number of communities showed a very helpful expansion of the recreation program with the help of emergency recreation workers, not only in conducting activities but in carrying on research, in delinquency prevention projects, in mapping recreation areas, and for securing general information of value—projects for many of which formal budgets do not permit. The meeting closed on the note that recreation leaders owe a responsibility to emergency workers and that every effort should be made to cooperate with federal agencies in the present emergency.

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John E. Gronseth, Director of Recreation, Sioux City, Iowa, served as chairman of the second morning session which for its first topic discussed "Training for Recreation Work—What Should Be Included?"

H. G. Danford, Director of Recreation, Lima, Ohio, opening the discussion, urged recreation executives first to make a study of the job from all angles to determine the functions that are to be performed and the problems to be met and solved, and with the information gained to build a training program designed to equip workers with the skills needed and knowledge essential to the solving of the problems.

A study of the problems of recreation considered from every angle shows that they can be grouped under eight general headings:

- (1) Interpretation of recreation and problems involved in it
- (2) The objectives of recreation
- (3) Social organization, which includes the study of social movements, the social struggles, the institutional establishment known as recreation
- (4) The people themselves, their age and sex differences, their nationalities, their traits, both functional and structural, their characteristics, capacities and need for recreation
- (5) The program itself, which may be subdivided into two major headings—the educative-recreative and the protective programs. The educative-recreative program includes all the major activities that make up a comprehensive recreation program, the analysis and classification of the activities and their organization into a program, program and standards here meaning character education. The so-called "protective" program includes health education, safety, first aid, and the like
- (6) Leadership training and methods, both direct (personal contact leadership) and indirect (promotion)
- (7) Administration
- (8) The history of administration

All the functions of the recreation worker or recreation official, and all of the knowledge about and skills in recreation are included under these eight problem groups.

Quality in recreational leadership means that the recreation director must have skills in these eight groups. He should be familiar with the interpretation of recreation as a basis for thinking about his work problems. He should know the objectives of recreation that he must achieve. He should know something about the institutional establishment called recreation, and about the laws, customs and attitudes toward recreation. He should know the characteristics of the people with whom he has to deal, their age and sex differences, their likes and dislikes. He must be familiar with the program of activities he is to administer, able to organize his program in an intelligent manner so that it will meet certain needs, capacities and desires of his people. He should have skill in leadership and ability to exercise ingenuity and skill in all the leadership procedures in dealing with people. He must know enough

about the general principles of recreation procedure to be able to administer his program efficiently, and finally, he should have sufficient knowledge of the history of recreation to give him an understanding of the social origins and the customs, habits, attitudes and general practices in recreation.

With this information the recreation executive should be able to build intelligently a training program, keeping in mind the importance of maintaining a balance between skill and knowledge, between the how and why of recreation, and between methods and materials.

The recreation worker who has great skill in playing all the games in his program but who cannot explain to an irate taxpayer why public funds are being spent to provide these games is not a well-trained worker. Nor ought recreation workers to make the mistake of so emphasizing teaching methods that their leaders will not have enough subject matter to teach anything well.

Mr. Danford suggested a sample institute program illustrative of the principles set forth. This program was conducted in Lima.

"Recreation and Recent Social Changes" (interpretation of recreation)

"Crime in the Leisure Time Program" (knowledge of recreation objectives)

"State Legislation Pertaining to Recreation" (social organization)

"Games for the Adolescent Boy and Girl" (age and sex differences)

"Planning the playground Program" (the program itself)

"First Aid on the Playground" (knowledge of protective functions)

"The Administration of the Individual Playground" (administration)

"The Effects of Puritanism On Recreational Development in America" (history recreation)

This institute, and others held in Lima, were attended by both ERA workers and regular staff members who have an important part in helping to train the emergency workers. The institutes were supplemented by supervisory visits, consultations, staff meetings, conferences and administration.

C. E. Brewer, Commissioner of Recreation of Detroit, Michigan, urged that recreation executives refuse to be influenced by the opinion which exists in some quarters that relief workers are not good recreation workers. "A lot of them are recreation workers and don't know it. It is up to the

recreation executive to make the proper selection from these workers and then train them. The problem is often that of educating the officials in charge of selecting people from the relief rolls. When these officials reach the point of realizing which applicants from those available will make good recreation workers, the battle is half won."

In Philadelphia the Bureau of Recreation held an institute for emergency workers with instruction given in drama, rhythmic activities, handcraft, games and other activities. Five instructors from among the workers have taken Civil Service examinations, and much good leadership material has been discovered.

Louis C. Schroeder, Superintendent of Recreation in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, spoke of the excellent results secured from the month's institute held in Pittsburgh by the National Recreation Association which was attended by approximately 150 people. He expressed the hope that the Association would extend the service to a larger number of cities.

**What Are the New Demands Upon Public Recreation Systems? What Changes in Administration Are Involved in Meeting These Demands? What Is the Future of the Recreation Movement in the Cities of the United States? Elements of a Ten Year Plan for Public Recreation**

Gerald M. Phelan, Director of Public Recreation, Board of Education, Kenosha, Wisconsin, pointed out that the demands placed on any recreation department are determined largely by the size of the town, its location, the type of its major industries, and the character of its citizenry. The South differs from the North, the East from the West. The ideals, principles and goals set up should have close similarity, but methods of approach necessarily differ.

In spite of the differences, there are demands which concern all recreation systems and which are universal. Among these are reduced budgets with the accompanying attempt to carry on as complete a program as possible; increased leisure, with its necessity for expanding the program—"to cope with the almost uncopable situation"; calls for help from local organizations formerly self-contained and self-operated and supported, and increased requests for information and help from communities which do not have full time recreation departments. State and national agen-



cies are pressing for time and information, and the Works Program is urging recreation officials to submit projects which will take families from the relief roll.

Speaking of problems involved in administration, Mr. Phelan said that in his opinion reduced budgets and increased attendance necessitate a program providing for greater mass participation and eliminating high cost activities, and standards of leadership must often be lowered.

"The future of recreation in any given community where a program has been in operation," said Mr. Phelan, "will depend almost entirely on what has been done in the past. If your department has been built up through ballyhoo and cheap advertising; if your energies have been dissipated in non-essentials; if your foundations have been built on the shifting sands of popular appeal, you can look for decay rather than growth. The underlying principles of recreation are as dignified, as basically sound, and as essential to community welfare as is education. It is our job to see they are considered as such."

It will not be difficult to lay out a ten year plan in an average city with an average director and an average budget if we start at scratch. But we must consider where we are at the present time and where we wish to go, and then survey the field between these points. Some departments have already gone a long way; others which have had a limited development will have a vast opportunity for growth.

The most essential features of any program are: (1) adequate leadership; (2) the crystallization of sentiment in favor of the department; (3) the necessity of developing cooperation among the various agencies.

Facilities play an important part in carrying out any plan. Playgrounds and play areas must be established. Athletic fields and indoor facilities should be at the disposal of leaders. Cultural attitudes should be promoted. Undesirable commercial recreation enterprises should as far as possible be eliminated. We must finally reach a point where there is a playground within access of every child and where there are athletic fields so distributed that they may be reached with comparative

ease, and every citizen will be given a chance to take part in some wholesome, inexpensive form of recreation.

In the discussion which followed exception was taken by a number of the executives to the statement that high cost activities, usually the cultural ones, must suffer a reduction. The low cost was cited of maintaining the workshop in Westchester County, N. Y., which is operated with a director, one instructor and a half time clerical worker. There are from twenty to twenty-five special instructors who receive only the amounts paid in fees from participants ranging from 25 cents to one dollar. There are ten free classes taught by members of the regular staff. A number of the executives felt that there is now a tendency to increase budgets and that the outlook for the future is hopeful. One executive pointed out that increased demands on public recreation departments have brought an increased backing from the public which holds promise for the future.

#### Under Present Conditions What Can Be Done to Make More Rapid the Establishment of Year-Round Recreation Systems?

In presenting this subject, Clayton C. Jones, Supervisor of Recreation and Community Activities, Connecticut State Department of Education, cited a number of things which recreation workers must impress upon their communities. They must make their communities realize that recreation workers are a legitimate profession with a place in the total community picture; that they have a philosophy and are abreast of the times, that they understand the problems facing the community and have a clear conception of how the recreation program may solve some of these problems. Mr. Jones urged the community council as one of the principal instruments to be used in assuring the continuance of the year-round program. He pictured the council as having two divisions—a professional division similar to a council of social agencies through which recreation activities can be coordinated with those of other agencies, and a lay council—the more important of two divisions—consisting of people living in the community or neighbor-

**"The Government is spending millions of dollars to develop recreation areas and construct recreation buildings. These facilities will naturally be turned over to us to operate, and if we live up to expectations our future is secure; but if any one of you fails your failure affects the rest of us, and if I fall down on the job I do an almost irreparable damage to you all. The depression has given us a chance and there is no limit to the service we can render; but it also spells our doom if we are not large enough to carry on the work that the community has a right to expect of us."**



hood in which a recreation program is operated. A lay council is often the solution of the problem of having a program dissolve into thin air. "It will work with you all the way through, so that if there is any danger of something you have built up being broken down, they will rise in holy wrath because it is theirs." A lay council must, however, function. Too many of them do not. The community council can assist the recreation worker in feeling the pulse of the community and seeing to it that the recreation program is the program of the people of the community rather than of the director.

Another consideration in program development, especially in the emergency program, is to see that the program does not go too far. If a very elaborate system is set up there is a tendency to make the community feel it is too large and cannot be put over. Standards must be maintained. The training of people from relief rolls must be a definite part of the program. There are many among them who have ability but they ought not to be placed in positions of responsibility until there is assurance that their work can be guided.

In regard to the personnel of the community council Mr. Jones mentioned a number of types: people who are interested in the community and who are good workers; individuals who have the respect of the community, the type of person usually found working on committees in the interests of the community. Council members should be chosen with great care.

The general discussion showed that a number of cities have developed councils. Cleveland, Ohio, has such a group made up of people representative of various activity groups. When someone with skill in a new recreation activity is discovered, an effort is made to have him assume responsibility for that activity, or at least to attend the meetings of that group.

There is no city-wide council for Birmingham, Alabama, but in different sections small groups of public-spirited citizens have been banded together in advisory councils. When more of these small councils have been organized — and one staff worker devotes all her time to setting them up — a city-wide council will be formed.

#### **Is Permanent Federal Aid for Public Recreation Desirable?**

This debatable question was presented by C. E. Brewer, Commissioner of Recreation of Detroit, who prefaced his remarks by saying: "Before

anyone can answer this question the following questions should first be answered: What is the future of America? Is there to be a new United States? Will there be conflicts between reform and recovery, and between the new and old concepts of government? Who and what will be the controlling element in our national thought? Will it be the farm element so strong in the early days of the Republic? Will it be the era of the industrialist which lasted well into the twentieth century, or the financial dynasty which went to smash during the past depression? Will it be one of social values and social security as recently announced by the President? The road is rocky and progress will be slow. It is yet too early to predict what the future holds."

In view of the uncertainty of the future Mr. Brewer urged that recreation executives proceed with caution in advocating radical changes in the administration and financing of recreation, but be prepared to take advantage of every opportunity offered to strengthen the position of public recreation in the public mind.

Permanent federal aid for public recreation, Mr. Brewer pointed out, would bring many changes in policies, activities and administration involving both strength and weakness. He raised six questions, stated in very positive terms, for the purpose of pointing out their extremely controversial nature, which would have to be considered before any final decision could be reached:

(1) What would be the form of administration, the strong centralized type of administration from Washington or through the states? The dangers of bureaucratic control are many; on the other hand, the possibilities of lax administration in some states is no idle apprehension.

(2) What should be the amount of money appropriated and what the source of financial support? From a revenue tax, tariff, sales tax, income tax, per capita tax, federal fines? Could the appropriation be stabilized or would it be controlled by the whim of the political party in power?

(3) If money were made available, on what basis should it be allotted? According to population? Financial condition of the community? Social needs? Absence of recreation facilities and efficient recreation program? Or according to votes cast for the political party in power, or as a pork barrel proposition?

(4) What of the personnel chosen by the federal government to administer the program? Would they be political appointees or people

selected for their ability, social viewpoint, past experience? Or would they be selected from the federal eligibility list?

(5) Should the federal government pay all the costs of local recreation activities, or should it subsidize only certain activities? If so, what should these activities be? Or should there be an outright grant of money to be used as a community deems advisable? (Obviously a grant made on the basis of activities would precipitate many wordy battles over boondoggling!)

(6) What would be the effect of federal grants on the many well operated recreation systems? Would not the local government decide to "let Uncle Sam do it"? Would the recreation executive have the same support from the local government and community groups he now receives?

Mr. Brewer suggested there might be a middle road which public recreation could travel through the maze of changes now taking place in our social structure, but this path cannot be determined until it is known what the re-alignments in government are to be. There are many conflicting interests between farmer and industrialist, and there are racial and religious differences. The re-alignment of political parties, if it happens, will be along the line of conservatism on one side and new social thought on the other. Whether there will be permanent aid for public recreation will depend on which party is to control. If present government control is to continue it may be advisable to advocate permanent federal aid. There should first be set up, however, an efficient system of administration. The plan of organization for such a system, Mr. Brewer suggests, might include the appointment of a secretary of public recreation in the President's cabinet who would have supervision of all recreational uses of national forests and parks, public buildings, waterways, and other government property. He should have power to organize activities in communities without recreation activities; to conduct research and disseminate information; to appoint assistants and have necessary state or regional supervisor of recreation. The secretary of public recreation should be given federal funds under the budget system (possibly \$75,000,000) to supplement, but not supplant, present local organizations and employees. These funds should be expended in communities not capable of providing adequate recreational facilities for themselves.

Mr. Brewer expressed the belief that under such a plan there will be greater need than ever

before for the services of the National Recreation Association. The Rockefeller Institute and similar scientific bodies, he pointed out, continue to do magnificent work though the federal government has provided large sums for help in scientific research. Similarly, he feels, the Association could do a larger job if the government should grant money for public recreation.

The discussion showed a division of opinion. A few of the executives hoped there would some day be a department in Washington which would concern itself with the promotion of recreation, leaving it to the local community to conduct the program. One executive felt there might be a department of education and recreation. On the other hand, others felt that while the federal government is likely to be involved in much heavier expenditures for recreation, it is a little dangerous to crystallize opinion as yet about the next step in administrative responsibility.

Nash Higgins, Superintendent of Public Recreation, Tampa, Florida, served as chairman of the first afternoon session which dealt with problems of the utilization by recreation departments of federal government spending in the park and recreation movement, the best use of ERA workers in recreation systems, and the procedures to follow in securing PWA money for the construction of recreation facilities.

Tam Deering, Director of Recreation, Cincinnati, Ohio, introducing the subject, characterized it as a problem of leadership, training and supervision which will be solved when two questions are answered: (1) What is the greatest need of the local community in the field of parks and recreation facilities? Have we the supervision, the leadership, that can intelligently construct the facility and give guidance to the activity to meet the need?

The first step in the construction of facilities is the intelligent analysis of the area and facilities needed in the community. The second is their acquisition by purchase, transfer or gift. The third step lies in making certain of good design. (In doing this it is not absolutely necessary to have a landscape architect in the department; the services of an expert in this line may often be borrowed from other city departments or secured on a contingent fee basis.) The fourth step is the proper personnel of the project and the technicians concerned.

Local financing of a project may be secured if the project is right, and it is a matter of getting the assistance of the local subdivision or of existing organizations or of securing a gift of money. The working out of the problem in any community is a matter of cooperation with the different political subdivisions and of energetic efforts to secure by gift the necessary money.

In considering the work program itself it is especially important to take into account the negative attitudes, which include the point of view that the project is a made work program, useless, but the only way to provide food and shelter for the workers, and that work for work's sake is important—the old Puritanical attitude. There is, too, the negative attitude that idle men endanger our institutions and that they mean unemployment, communism, and so on. The fourth negative attitude is that this is only a temporary recourse and we shall soon go back to the normal way of doing things. And fifth, there is the attitude that this program is a bother, displacing the regular budget and employees and substituting in efficiency.

There are, on the other hand, constructive positive attitudes—(1) that the present program offers an opportunity for the physical and mental rehabilitation of men; (2) that there are intrinsic values to be gotten from the program and that it means facilities constructed and facilities enlarged. There is also the attitude that the present program affords an opportunity for discovering and testing out the things we have long wanted to do; to do research; to reorganize departments; to relate to the total picture our councils, and to do our planning for the future. Finally, as a constructive broad attitude, may be enumerated the possibilities and opportunities for the permanent extension of essential public services, looking at it as a new development in the field of social service that is essential to the community rather than a temporary expedient.

"Phillips Brooks on seeing for the first time a new born baby is said to have made the ejaculation, 'What will this child see in his lifetime?' So may we say of this, the new born conception of

our nation's responsibility for the work and security of all men. Anyway, you have got to swallow the stuff and it is more sensible to digest it than it is to let it be a brown taste in your mouth."

In discussing procedures to follow in securing the funds needed to obtain PWA money for the development of recreation facilities, Mr. Deering expressed the opinion that it is a matter of getting ready for a program some months or even a year hence. The first step is to visit the state or local PWA administrator and learn how detailed plans must be. Then comes the procedure of getting landscape architects, engineers, surveyors and estimators, making up the necessary projects and working out all the necessary details. It is a difficult and complicated job, and a project may be

sent back several times before it is accepted, so it is well to be making plans at once for submission to the PWA administrator even though the renewal of this program may be some months away.

**Should the Distinction Between Education and Recreation Set Up by the Federal Officials in Charge of Emergency School Funds in Certain States Be Broken Down?**

W. C. Averill, Jr., Recreation Director, State

Emergency Welfare Relief Commission, Lansing, Michigan, suggested two approaches to this subject. One from the standpoint of administration, the other from the point of view of activities. In the State Office in Michigan the Recreation Division is theoretically a part of the Emergency Education Department, but actually, through the vision and understanding of the Emergency Education Director, a separate and distinct unit with its own funds and program. By having a distinction of this kind in the State Office it has been possible to avoid submerging the recreation program in the educational program, thus decreasing its importance, and the plan has permitted of a flexible program which could be organized to meet the individual needs of each community. "A recreation program cannot be confined," said Mr. Averill, "to the limits of the educational set-up either in time or season, and this in itself justifies a distinction."

"I believe that every essential facility we can imagine can be constructed, every essential recreation area acquired, and every essential public service in the field of leisure time can be undertaken, if we will now make sufficiently broad plans. The only really dangerous elements in this works program are our unpreparedness, our laziness, our mental storehouse of antiquated attitudes, our incapacity to analyse the situation, to interpret the needs, to master all the phases of the problem and to cooperate with the major forces involved."



Mr. Averill pointed out other reasons why he believed there should be a distinction between recreation and education from the standpoint of administration. "Recreation by its very nature if it is to reach its highest form will not permit becoming traditionalized, standardized and stereotyped as is the case with the educational system. Nor will it permit being carved or squeezed to conform to such a system.

The second approach is from the standpoint of activity and here there are difficulties in trying to make the distinction as to where the two functions begin and end. Mr. Averill questioned whether the federal or state government could set up a distinction and have it work. The two fields overlap considerably and constantly, making it necessary for the directors of both to work in harmony. Crafts, music and drama may be included either as a matter of education or of recreation.

If education is the primary motive, learning is the all important factor, and pleasure and relaxation may or may not be present, but they are of secondary importance. If recreation is the primary motive, then the persons must find pleasurable relaxation, joy and re-creation of his faculties in the activity, and while he is likely to learn something, that is of secondary importance. In the Michigan WPA program the following distinction was made: Educational activities are those activities in which persons engage for the purpose of deriving some financial or personal advantage to themselves either in promotion, making themselves more efficient in their work, or learning something in order to make a living. Recreational activities are those activities in which a person engages for the pleasure he gets out of them.

Miss Irma Ringe, representing the Works Progress Administration, said she would be loath to draw a distinction between recreation and education because each needs the other, and she should dislike to see recreation interpreted as a baseball game and education as a stereotyped, formalized class. The difficulty in each state, as far as confirming the items to one group or the other, is essentially an administrative one. Recreation, in Miss Ringe's opinion, is a function in itself—a community function and one which the community must think through. Like education it touches the life of everyone.

**"If there is to be any distinction at all between recreation and education it must come from the individual who is participating in the activity, because after all he alone can decide whether that activity is of a recreational or educational nature to him."**

Some of the emergency education directors, Miss Ringe pointed out, have at the same time been the emergency recreation directors, and that combination of functions has been a fortunate one. In some places it has meant the opening of schools never before opened to the public at night, for both young and old, with activities ranging from literary classes to the arts and crafts. "There are viewpoints on both sides of the question," said Miss Ringe, "and it is something we are going to have to think through from the beginning to the end because education and recreation are bound up together both in the activities program and in the philosophy of recreation. The facilities of recreation are bound up with our park departments, our public housing, with every phase of life because recreation in fulfilling a leisure time need is fulfilling a need of life. That is why a definite decision is impossible now.

#### **How Best May Local Communities Train SERA and FERA Workers for Community Recreation Service? What Is the Best Way of Presenting Recreation Material to This Group?**

Mrs. Rolla Southworth, Recreation Director, Florida Emergency Relief Administration, Jacksonville, explained that in working out a plan for training the workers under her supervision she found it necessary in the rural communities of Florida to map out a way to train not only the workers but the communities. The first thing it was necessary to agree upon was the philosophy for recreation acceptable to all the staff. It was decided that as a philosophy for recreation the workers would think in terms of an abundant life for all; no matter how simple life might be it could be abundant with health, education, employment, recreation, spiritual values as the things essential in all lives.

One training institute for the emergency workers was held last year at the Florida State College for Women which practically financed this training. Another will be held this year. Last summer the Physical Education Department put on some courses in recreational leadership which had never before been given. The other institute was held at Bethune-Cookman College, one of the fin-



est colored schools in the South. Under the WPA camps are being planned for young people from sixteen to twenty-five, one of which is to be held at Bethune-Cookman College. The emphasis in these camps will be on recreational leadership.

In addition to these state-wide institutes described, institutes are being held each district director mapping out the program he feels needed in that particular area. In one district, for example, where the people are devoted church-goers and the social life is centered largely around the churches, the district director trained 500 young people in social recreation including "singing games."

In addition to the institutes, weekly staff meetings are being held in practically every district. Here again the district directors use their initiative. One director had a party each month for all her county directors, each director being held responsible for planning the activities of a particular party and the program for the next month.

Mrs. Southworth conducts an exchange bureau to which the different directors contribute. As there are practically no libraries in Florida, this is not a simple matter.

There are nine members on Mrs. Southworth's immediate staff and a county director for practically every county with workers in the individual community. In all there are about 400 people on the state staff. Mrs. Southworth commented on the high caliber of many of the emergency workers whom she has found. "The people who are given us are, of course, good and bad. There are difficulties involved when so many people are handed us, but nowadays, with college people living in the most remote communities, you will find many who have had at least a year of college training. These people are recreation-minded, and if you start with a group like that and then plan wisely in your institutes and your training you can really go places and do things. If fifteen or twenty people were given me and three-quarters of them were failures, I should feel that I had had something to do with their failure."

#### **What Should Be the Relationship Between State Emergency Recreation Programs and Locally Established Recreation Programs?**

Garrett G. Eppley, State Director of Recreation, Emergency Education Division, Governor's

Commission on Unemployment Relief, Indianapolis, Indiana, opening the discussion of this subject, made the following suggestions. In states where state directors have not been established it might well be advisable for the local recreation directors to make contacts with the state administrator of WPA in an effort to secure a competent state recreation staff which understands the conditions existing locally in the various recreation departments. The state staff should understand the existing emergency which has resulted in reduced personnel, reduced funds for supplies and equipment, lowered receipts from activities, and less financial assistance from other agencies—problems which the local recreation department must confront in spite of increased demands upon it. If the state staff understands these conditions, it can the more easily meet the needs of local departments.

The emergency recreation program as outlined by the state should supplement the program of the local department. If supervisors are appointed by the state they should serve as assistants to local recreation executives.

In cities where summer programs alone are tax supported the summer recreation director should have as his assistant the local WPA recreation supervisor. During the winter months a committee should function with the local summer recreation director serving in an advisory capacity or at least as a committee member.

With financial assistance given the state recreation department can insist on an efficient program in the local recreation department. Such insistence will be helpful to the local director and will often prevent interference with his program in his own city. The state department through WPA can supply personnel, assist in the making of game supplies and equipment, with the promotion of training courses, and with contacts with various state and governmental agencies.

The local recreation department can assist the state program with advice from its experience in the field, by volunteer work in neighboring towns, by helping in training courses, and by giving credit to the state WPA for assistance secured.

V. K. Brown, Chief, Recreation Division, Chicago Park District, presided over the second half of the afternoon session which dealt largely with problems created by unemployment and general economic conditions.

**The Probable Reaction on the City Recreation Departments After the Federal Government Withdraws Funds for Recreation Activities. What Can Recreation Systems Do to Plan in Advance for the Replacing of ERA Recreation Workers When Their Services Are Discontinued?**

Charles H. English, Executive Secretary, Playgrounds and Recreation Association of Philadelphia, pointed out that the past few years have been a period of considerable confusion. Recreation workers have not known frequently from one week to the next what was going to happen, and this has militated against the sort of program they have wanted to put on. They faced criticism from their communities and it was exceedingly important that they have the right kind of a staff properly trained in order that their services might be continuous. "Breaking faith with the groups we were serving was one of the most damaging of our liabilities." It was natural for recreation departments with budgets reduced to accept the gifts offered by ERA programs in the way of workers to fill vacancies on the staff. In some instances, under pressure from state administrations to find outlets for large numbers of people, recreation executives overmanned their departments when more workers were assigned than were really needed for the job. Another difficulty was the resentment on the part of the old staff that the new workers were in some instances receiving more salary for the time spent than were the old workers.

The plan followed by one executive contains suggestions for future planning. This executive put the ERA workers added to his staff on new projects without augmenting the old program. Thus he avoided the conflict between new and old staff members and laid a foundation for the future. New avenues of expression, new types of projects which are possible within the wide range of the recreation field, might well be developed by the new workers. Many difficulties have been created by the fact that executives have tried to carry on the same old program with the new workers and have not had the imagination to use them for new fields of work. To do this, however, we must have created a desire for additional community services; must have broadened the program so that through these new activities we have recruited people other than the groups we have served in the past.

Some executives are greatly concerned lest their communities will not support, after federal funds have been withdrawn, the new facilities which have been created through WPA and other governmental programs. "Isn't this new equipment one of the finest things which has come out of all this effort?" Mr. English asked. "Since we have so greatly increased our facilities do you think for a single minute the public is going to let these facilities deteriorate without use?" People are complaining about taxes. It may be, Mr. English suggested, that a system of low fees for the use of facilities, small enough to be within the reach of everyone, may be the next step.

Many good things have come out of this experience, among them community councils and citizens councils, many of which have been organized during the depression. The council is one of the best avenues for continuing services. These groups ought to be utilized and strengthened and the same care should be given to them as to other parts of the program. Permanent records can come out of this experience such as the "Leisure Hobby Series" published by the Chicago Park District and the bulletins which have been issued by many state emergency relief administrations.

"We have been creating self-sufficiency, self-dependency, through such activities as hobbies in which people find their own leadership and maintain their own activities. That points to the type of program we must consider, and it is time for us to think about it right now and to set aside a certain part of our schedule to think out the problem of what to do after federal support is gone."

Mr. Brown asked the question whether we are absolutely correct in our assumption that a leader is necessary for every activity. "It really isn't," he said. "In every community aren't there thousands of successful activities going on for which no instructor is paid? Aren't there organizations in churches and in community groups of all kinds in which there is no paid staff? Isn't there a possibility that our thinking of leadership has been of the top sergeant type of leadership when we should have been thinking in terms of general staff leadership organized out of the group itself? Oughtn't we to be considering an entirely new type of leadership which is needed—the type which energizes and makes efficient forces within a community? These are some of the things we should be thinking about so the evil day doesn't come on us too suddenly with the cessation of

the thing to which the community has grown accustomed."

**Ought Recreation, Adult Education and Special Programs for Unemployed Youth Be Unified Under One Administration and If So, How Should This Be Done?**

Josephine Randall, Superintendent, Recreation Commission, San Francisco, opening the discussion of this question, called attention to the fact that since 1929 more than 12,000,000 boys and girls have left school—a population larger than Canada; larger than our eleven western states; as large as Norway, Sweden and Denmark together. "Add to this vast number," she said, "the unemployed adult population. And add to these the great number of leisure hours due to shorter working days for which occupation must be found, and you have three main phases of the problem—education, occupation and recreation in its broadest interpretation. Each community has its own special needs and therefore all programs should be flexible enough to change as the needs change."

The great amount of work to be done in every community makes it necessary to eliminate duplications and so to coordinate leisure time activities that there are no gaps and weak spots in the community program as a whole.

Miss Randall pointed out that while the thing has been slowly coming upon us, the climax came so suddenly that it has caught us unprepared. Communities are not ready for the overwhelming demands made upon them and therefore it is extremely important that a determination of the functions of all agencies working in the leisure time field be reached and that facilities and resources of all be used to capacity. Every community must understand the real meaning of the word "recreation" in order to develop a community program of leisure time on the basis of individual needs.

The program naturally divides itself into education and recreation and the determination of the functions of each. "Education," she said, "trains for work and for play in every known field and for every age through formal, organized class work, while recreation offers the opportunity for experience in all types of leisure time pursuits and for all ages."

During the depression recreation departments have been able to carry on many interesting experiments. A group of women met to learn to talk French. They didn't want to study French. They were all busy women doing their own housework and they did not want to go out of their neighborhoods, but they thought it would be fun to learn how to pronounce certain French words. They met regularly with an educated French woman who came through the SERA recreation project. The group was very informal and was certainly recreational.

Travel groups have developed in the same way, and with the leadership available through the emergency program many forms of leisure time activities have emerged which had not been previously considered as recreation activities. It seems logical, therefore, that through a system of public education formal teaching and training in all subjects and for all ages may be offered as general education and vocational training, and that

through a system of public recreation avocational activities of all types and for all ages may be offered. Very close cooperation between the two departments is necessary in order that the training given for leisure time occupation and the provision made for leisure

time activities be similar in scope and that the one supplement the other. If an intelligent community plan is worked out and the program is based on a knowledge of facts, then the needs of both youth and adults may be met.

Miss Randall told of a plan in successful operation in San Francisco since 1930 involving an executive coordinating council composed of the superintendent of schools, superintendent of recreation, past chairman, chief probation officer and past chairman, chief of police, director of public health, director of community welfare, director of emergency relief, and supervisor of public dance halls. In two districts of the city district coordinating councils have been functioning for over a year. A third council is now being organized and in time there will be one district council in each logical district of the city—probably twelve in number. These district councils are composed of the school principal, recreation director at large, probation officer, police captain, visiting nurse, and representatives from the other departments named on the executive council. The councils study the problems and needs of their own

**"Through Education the individual is trained to use his free time constructively, and through Recreation he is offered the opportunity to make use of his training."**



districts and formulate plans for correction, adjustment and betterment. This close cooperation between neighborhood agencies has brought about many splendid results in the neighborhood.

**What Special Techniques Are Essential for Dealing with Those Who Have Come Out of Our Schools and Colleges During the Past Five Years and Who Have Not Found Employment? Will Standards of Preparation and Compensation for Recreation Workers Be Lowered Because So Many Emergency Relief Workers Have Taken Up Recreation Service? If So, What Can Be Done?**

A. O. Anderson, Director, Health, Physical Education and Recreation, Public Schools, Kansas City, Missouri, said that unemployed educated youth offer a new problem with which we have not previously had to cope. "It is a question in my mind," he said, "just how much of new techniques are needed in handling a group of this kind. It is different from the average group of youngsters and the average group of adults, and some special consideration should be given them. They are supposed to be a group of thinkers, and that they are accepted as a general statement. They are supposed to be leaders and I believe they are. They have been to college and there they have certainly built up more of the qualifications that go to make up a leader. They have been exposed not only to education but to the extra-curricular activities that go with education. A great many of this group are not yet through college, and there are others who are either through college or who cannot get away and who should be considered in our plans."

Mr. Anderson suggested that when we approach this group we ought to challenge their minds with something worth while from their point of view. The activity type of leadership may not get very far with this group; it takes something of a leadership with more thinking. They might well be used on committees, and to help as leaders in athletics and other activities. Members of this group are able to go ahead with some type of education, recreation or otherwise, because they have so recently been in contact with educational institutions. A challenging recreation program would enlist them. Such a program might be tied up with the school, and the first step should be the provision of the most intelli-

gent leadership possible, leadership as similar as possible to that of the college professors with whom they have been in contact. Then they should be called on to sit in committees and help develop their own program.

Mr. Anderson divided into two parts the question whether the addition of a large number of relief workers to the staff will lower standards and salaries in the recreation field. "It may lower standards temporarily," he said, "as it has done in education. There are still boards of education and of recreation who are delighted to secure workers at \$50 or \$60 a month. After a while they are going to realize that the well trained individual who is well paid is the one who will get results." Mr. Anderson's second point was that there aren't enough workers in America, even with all the relief workers, to do the job. He compared the present situation to that which existed when the country needed a larger number of common laborers. Organized labor in all probability did not resent having foreigners come in to do the ditch digging. They were at the base of the pyramid and as they did the unskilled work the other workers were set up in the pyramid. That may be the experience in the recreation field.

"I think that these emergency relief workers have stimulated our trained workers as nothing has ever done. In time and in the near future, though there will be setbacks, the communities are going to recognize the importance of this work and we are going to need more trained recreation workers; they will be paid more and standards will have to be high. People are not going to stand for a let-down in this thing which has been started; they are going to demand more and more of it, and it is going to take trained leadership."

**What Ways Have Been Discovered During the Emergency Period for Increasing the Amount of Money Available for Recreation Through Tax Funds and Through Charges?**

There are three generally accepted methods of securing money for the operation of parks and recreation systems, R. S. Marshall, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation of Birmingham, Alabama, stated. (1) the mill tax, which, in his opinion, is the most satisfactory method; (2) appropriations from city governments—and during the past few years the city fathers have cut recre-

ation budgets as much as half if not more, though there is now an encouraging tendency to restore some of the cuts; (3) the collection of fees to aid in financing recreation activities—a method recreation executives have generally felt undesirable except in the case of such facilities as golf courses, pools and other facilities where a specialized service is given and it is not unjust to ask people to pay a small fee for their operation. Mr. Marshall suggested that with the greatly increased facilities available through federal government expenditures it may be necessary to do more charging in the future. In Birmingham the Recreation Department has recently put on a large number of dramatic productions, baseball games and similar activities for which a small admission fee was charged. The plan was successful, and people did not object to paying a 10 or 15 cent charge. The money received in this way helped greatly in paying the cost of the activities.

Last summer the Park and Recreation Board was urged to put on a major dramatic production built around a story of colored life and presented by colored people. The Board presented a pageant and charged a small admission fee hoping to receive \$200 or \$300. Appeals were made to workers in colored districts and to colored leaders to support the project. They were told that any money left after expenses were paid would be used to equip playgrounds and community centers for colored citizens. Nine thousand people attended the pageant paying a charge of 25 or 35 cents, and about \$1,000 was cleared. No one complained about the charge. Mr. Marshall suggested that during this period of readjustment, until it is possible to build up budgets through the influence of community councils and other means, the fee system may be a temporary way of helping to carry through the recreation program.

In the discussion which followed V. K. Brown spoke of the importance of improving techniques and of recording successful experiences on paper so that they will be available for all. Chicago is experimenting with Saturday morning radio hours the cost of which is practically nothing as the radio station gives the time. At this particular season the managers and coaches of a number of football teams are giving definite instruction to boys on the game of football.

Speaking of the new work-

ers who are entering the field through the emergency agencies Mr. Brown said: "In my organization those of us who think we really know a great deal about our jobs are put on our toes right now by the newcomers. As far as I am concerned, I am worried that some young fellow who doesn't think, as I do, that he knows all about it, will go by me! He has too many brain cells working at this job, and some of the newcomers are giving us a tremendous run for our money."

The problem of financing the new activities made available through emergency agencies created much discussion. Joseph F. Suttner, Director of Recreation and Parks, Buffalo, New York, cited Buffalo additions to facilities, including twelve new playgrounds, with plans for thirty more, a large stadium with a recreation field, and seven swimming pools—"all at a tremendous cost and for the future at a tremendous upkeep." "Today," Mr. Suttner said, "we are getting along but what are we going to do after federal aid is removed? Fees would only partially support the facilities and volunteers are not the whole answer to the problem. How will the taxpayer feel when he has to dig in his own pocket to pay the increased taxes?"

A number of suggestions were offered. Mr. Marshall reported that when the question of maintaining three new community buildings came up in Birmingham one member of the Recreation Board suggested that a sign might be put on the door of each building saying, "The city commission did not give us enough money to finance this." "If things should come to such a pass," said Mr. Marshall, "I venture to say there would be 260,000 taxpayers talking to the city commission."

K. Mark Cowen, Director of Recreation, Roanoke, Virginia, expressed it as his opinion that under the right type of leadership facilities built will be a real investment and suggested that money saved from the decrease in delinquency which would accompany the use of the facilities might help finance them.

Alfred McDonald, Director of Parks, Wichita, Kansas, pointed out the possibility of constructing new facilities in such a way that the cost of maintaining them will not be so great. Many economies may be effected. In Wichita, for example, the Park Depart-

**"He who knows good books and reads them; who has an appreciation of what is fine in painting and music; who finds God's sunlight on the hills more alluring than the white lights of the crowded thoroughfare, has something which fortifies him against the monotony of toil; he has the key to the abundant life."**

**—William Mather Lewis.**

(Continued on page 520)

# The Enlarged Recreation Service



*Department of Forests and Waters, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*

## of the National Parks

*By*

CONRAD L. WIRTH

Assistant Director  
National Park Service

I WANT to give you a brief picture tonight of the past activities of the National Park Service, its relationship to the states, what we have been doing in the last few years and what we think the future has for those of us who are immensely interested in the social well-being of this country in the form of recreation.

First, we believe strongly in conservation, conservation being interpreted as a wise use of our land, our resources and our time. We believe that we must not only plan the proper use of our lands and put them into their best use, but that we must also plan for their proper use after they have been set aside in accordance with a well-worked out plan.

With this as a background, I want to make it clear that we do not set ourselves up as the authority to do all the planning and to tell which land should be used for this purpose and which for that. We believe that the federal govern-

ment and the states have adequately recognized that and are working toward the objective of central

planning boards which will take technical advice from all services, such as the National Park Service, the Forest Service, and the Bureau of Agricultural Development from the national standpoint, and the various commissions and departments from the states, and will turn out a plan of proper land use. In that plan will fit very definitely the recreation program.

### What Is the National Park Service?

The National Park Service is a young bureau of the government. It was created in 1916 for the purpose of setting aside for the enjoyment of the people for all time those scenic areas and historical areas of the United States that should be preserved. In setting aside these areas and in establishing the National Park Service Congress recognized the need of recreation. It set aside an agency to administer and to represent the federal government on general recreation problems of the



nation. The national parks form only a very small part of the recreational problem of the country. This service looks to preservation of those nationally important scenic areas which we all wish to keep for all time.

Due to the kind of land involved, the recreation derived from the land set aside as national parks must necessarily be what we call extensive recreation. There are far more people who use the municipal parks and playgrounds than use the extensive type of recreation as found in the national parks.

In 1933 when we entered into an emergency period as declared by Congress, in which money was appropriated, the National Park Service was called upon to administer the development of recreational areas through the CCC program. Many of the states at that time had park systems, some of which contained only one or two areas with nobody directly at the head. But at that time there were about 1,500,000 acres of land devoted to state parks or to that type of extensive recreation that is contained in state parks, exclusive of about 2,000,000 acres set aside in the Catskill and Adirondack park. Since that time there has been added over 600,000 acres of land to this system.

Now that amount of land is small compared with the federal setup—I mean not only the national parks but the enormous amount of land that remained in public domain in the forest areas. Nevertheless, 90 per cent of all that land, 600,000 acres, was added to the park system along a well-defined plan and was added through donations, through people who believed in the use of large wooded areas for extensive recreation. The turning over of 600,000 acres in a period of two years of the economic depression is, I think, a remarkable accomplishment. It speaks well for the American people as a whole that they did not lose track of an essential, even though they might have forgotten it for the time being. When it was brought to their attention they responded to the call.

But that is not nearly enough land. In our report to the National Resources Board—the National Park Service was requested to handle that part of the National Resources Board pertaining to recreation—a committee was set up and through the assistance of your Association, Mr. L. H. Weir was given to us to help with the program. We are greatly indebted to the Association for that service in addition to a number of others. In our report we roughly estimated that the state

park systems should eventually be around twelve to fifteen million acres.

The state park standards as defined by the National Resources Committee deal with two general types of areas: one, those scenic areas that are set aside with a limited amount of intensive recreation. Only that part of extensive recreation is permitted on these areas which will not interfere with the natural settings. That should be supplemented by those areas that can be used for more or less extensive recreation such as group camps, cottages for low income group people within distance of the city. Illinois has rapidly been pushing forward in park and recreation work throughout the state. We have more camps now working on recreation development in the State of Illinois than any other state in the Union, and I may add they would take far more if we had more to give them.

When the land program of the FERA was set up, the National Park Service was called upon to aid in the study of how to acquire the so-called submarginal land which might be used to provide within close proximity of the larger cities recreational areas for those of the low income and underprivileged groups. Our thought was to secure land within fifty miles of the largest cities with easy access by road, railroad and street car. These areas would contain water facilities, either artificial or natural, which could be used for recreational purposes, with camps so constructed as to house children so they would have the advantages of open air sleeping facilities. It was necessary to secure the cooperation of the states in this program and to guarantee the upkeep and maintenance after development. We also had to make contacts with local social and civic agencies suggesting that we would buy 4,000 or 5,000 acres for this purpose and that the money they were spending to maintain their own small areas, which were expensive and which they were having difficulty to maintain, be combined with the other project to make possible the larger unit. This we believed would be less costly and far more satisfactory. We were able to set up about fifty-six of these projects. They have, I am sorry to say, been cut down to forty-five because of financial difficulties.

This, I believe, is one of the most important things we have to look into now. We must, too, give very serious thought to getting our children out into such camps as are being maintained in the forest preserves surrounding Chicago. We

must provide opportunity for people working in our communities to take a vacation by going to a cottage close to the city, but nevertheless in natural surroundings, where they may live at a very reasonable rate. There are hundreds of people who do not now have the opportunity to enjoy vacations.

So much for the recreation and demonstration projects. We also have before the proper authorities in Washington a request for funds for a general recreation survey which will assist the states and communities in studying the areas which are available for recreational use and in discovering means through which to secure them.

Another thing that I think is going to have a tremendous bearing on the future development of our children is the Youth Hostel movement. We have made quite an extensive study of this and have issued a report on what we believe to be the proper procedure in this country; namely, Federal assistance and aid in getting started but with local administration through a central non-governmental organization. By that I mean a coordination of those agencies interested in the movement and a central organization which will control the charter and develop a program through local interests.

What does the future hold for us in the maintenance and the administration of these areas?

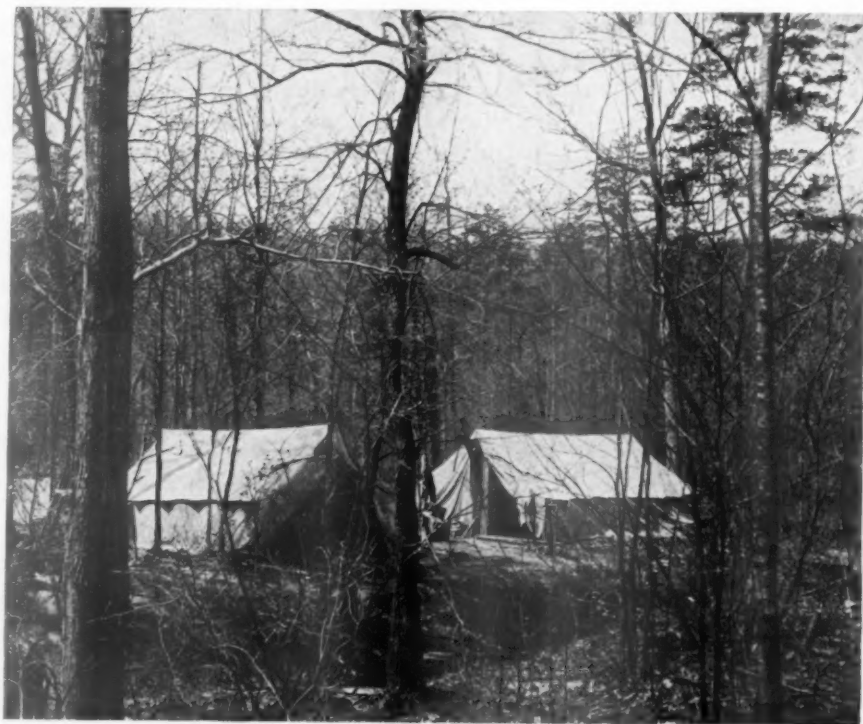
We do not believe that the states as a whole fully realize the problem that is before them in the maintenance and upkeep of these areas. They are going to realize it very shortly, and they are going to appreciate the benefits to be derived from these areas through proper administration, upkeep, and direction. We have been working on that in the last few years. We are now studying the various laws of the states from the standpoint of administration, the rules and regulations. We do not propose to say, "This is the law and the only law, and the organization and the only organization that will

work." We propose to point out what other states are doing, the results they are getting from this type of thing, and the difficulties that are inherent. Thus the states will make their own decision as to the path they want to follow. We feel that in following along those lines in pointing out the experiences of other states and acting as a sort of central distributing center for this information, we are performing a real service.

Now we come to the direction of the use of these areas. We are working toward placing in each one of our regions along with our technical men on landscape, on engineering, on design, on history, on wild life, on geology, or forestry, a man well trained in recreational activities, to put before the public the benefits of recreation and the way in which they may get the best use out of those facilities made available to them. We have not perfected that. As I say, the money became available to develop facilities, and we have been so busy with that that we really did not have time to sit down and think out that other problem. However, that problem is now before us and we will produce a well-rounded staff and with a system that will work.

All this work the National Park Service has done. Some of it we feel is very good. We really

*(Continued on page 521)*



*Courtesy Department of Forests and Waters, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*

# Nature Recreation in Chicago

By WILLIAM G. VINAL

Nature Specialist

National Recreation Association

**A**S EARLY as 1868 the State Natural History Society of Illinois assumed "the duty of supplying Natural History materials to the schools prepared to use them." Today in the Chicago district alone there are at least thirty-five agencies disseminating natural history in one form or another. These various bureaus and societies, like the Arabs, must have come silently in the night and set up their institutions as Chicagoans hardly know that they exist. When these facts are marshalled into a table they present a very potent power which contributes to the cultural life of Chicago.

One can readily find a list of "the tallest buildings" and every sidewalker can point out the world's largest hotel or largest stockyard or largest something else. Every loyal Chicagoan knows that the Navy Pier is one mile long. Recreation leaders can promptly say that there are 125 baseball diamonds in Park X, but asked for a picture of their nature activities they are silent!

Nevertheless, Chicago has had its Babe Ruths in Naturedom. There has been a succession of noted trainers in nature leadership commencing with H. H. Straight in 1883 who came to Cook County Training School from Oswego Normal. In 1889 Wilbur S. Jackman came from Pittsburgh. Both were coached and schooled by that teacher of teachers, Louis Agassiz, the Great. Then came Ira B. Meyers in about 1905 followed by Otis W. Caldwell. In 1911 the dynasty of Elliot R. Downing commenced and today O. D. Franks is the chief factum factotum. A noted legion dating back to Agassiz,

yet the whole family tree hidden under a bushel!

It has taken considerable coaxing and maneuvering to bring this information to light and yet it ought to be useful not only in Chicago but to leaders in general who are trying to organize their own communities. It will not only provide source material and experienced people to contact but will indicate the trends of the time. The nature services and opportunities of any locality do not come about spontaneously but must be credited to enthusiastic leaders for having been born. That is not all: A favorable environment and nurturing is necessary. The recreation leaders who can visualize this picture most clearly will see an opportunity that parallels the other cultures—namely, drama, art and music. To them let it be a hint that they hang this "Bird's-Eye View of Nature Activities in Chicago" alongside of the old Farmer's Almanac and contemplate it now and then in planning the future.

## Organizations Conducting Nature Activities

### Public and Semi-Civic Organizations

1. Adler Planetarium
2. Board of Education, Department of Education
3. Board of Education, Bureau of Recreation
4. Brookfield Zoo
5. Chicago Academy of Science
6. Chicago Public Library
7. Chicago Recreation Commission
8. Field Museum
9. Morton Arboretum
10. Museum of Science and Industry
11. Shedd Aquarium

### Parks

12. Chicago Park District
13. Cook County Forest Preserves
14. Dunes Park of Indiana
15. Garfield
16. Humboldt
17. Lincoln
18. Washington

**As Dr. Vinal visits cities in connection with the institutes conducted by the National Recreation Association, he surveys briefly the activities of each city along the line of nature education and recreation. The information he is discovering is of keen interest to groups and individuals concerned with the recreation programs in the various cities, who have apparently had little idea of the activities.**

**We are presenting Dr. Vinal's finding in Chicago, which, as host to the Recreation Congress, may have special interest to our readers.**



*Schools*

19. Northwestern University  
20. University of Chicago

*Clubs*

21. Chicago Ornithological  
22. Chicago Woman's Club, Forest and Garden Class  
23. Conservation Council  
24. Friends of Our Native Landscape  
25. The Geographic Society of Chicago  
26. Illinois Audubon Society

27. Izaak Walton League  
28. Kennicott Club  
29. Outdoor Art League  
30. Prairie Club  
31. Wild Flower Preservation Society

*Social Organizations*

32. Adult Education Council  
33. Hull House  
34. Outing and Recreation Bureau  
35. South Chicago Neighborhood House  
36. Y. M. C. A.

Organization	Moving Spirit	Emphasis	Remarks
Chicago Public Library	Carl B. Roden Washington and Michigan	Educational Book Approach	Readers Service Bureau. 21,000 slides on Natural Science loaned free to those holding library cards Children's clubs: Astronomy in winter outdoor nature clubs in spring at Branch Libraries
Chicago Recreation Commission (1934)	Mayor Edward J. Kelly Dr. Philip L. Seman, Chairman, 1634 Burnham Bldg.	Clearing House for information on recreation in Chicago	Gives opinions on plans making a survey, published "Leisure Time Directory" and "Recreation in Chicago." 62 agencies
Adult Education Council of Chicago	224 S. Michigan Avenue	Publishes "Educational Events" in Chicago. A Directory of educational opportunities	A source bureau for lectures, forums, speakers and courses in Natural Science. Sponsors Radio Program
Northwestern University	Dr. Waterman. Botany Department, 1400 Augusta Blvd.	Plant approach	Has been instrumental in cooperation with Izaak Walton League in holding outdoor leadership courses in Nature Guiding
University of Chicago	O. D. Franks School of Education	Teachers Training	Extension and college courses in methods. University Elementary School gives some emphasis to elementary science
YMCA (1858) and YWCA	19 S. LaSalle	Recreational	Group activities for young men and women in camping and outings
Outdoor Art League	Mrs. W. D. Richardson 4215 Prairie Avenue, Chicago, Ill.	Conservation	Meet once a month. About 35 years old. Roadside Planting. Distribute seeds to school children
The Prairie Club (1908)	Eva S. Cowan, Chairman, Nature Study Committee Room 757, 38 S. Dearborn Street	Encouragement of love of nature through outings	Walks, canoeing, lectures, three permanent camps, Junior Department. About 1000 members
Chicago Ornithological Club	Dr. R. M. Strong, President 5840 Stony Island Ave.	Birds	Meets in Crerar Library once a month (3rd Tuesday). Field trips, lectures
Illinois Audubon Society (1894)	Dr. C. W. G. Eifrig President, Monroe Ave., River Forest	Popular Bird Study	Meets at Lincoln Park Museum of Natural Science Lecture meetings
Kennicott Club (1929)	Tappan Gregory, President Lincoln Park Museum	Outdoor Life for Men	Meets at Lincoln Park Museum Chicago Academy of Science
Izaak Walton Club	National Office 22 W. N. Bank Drive	Conservation	General interests. Evanston Club instituted first training courses in Nature Leadership
S. Chicago Neighborhood House	M. F. Collins 8500 S. Mackinaw	Nature Clubs for children (1934)	Perhaps typical of what is offered by many social agencies
The Friends of Our Native Landscape (1915)	Jens Jensen, President Ellison Bay, Wis.	Conservation	Pilgrimages, Roadside Planting, Pamphlets, lectures, legislation, A camp at Baileytown, Indiana
Wild Flower Preservation Society, Illinois Chapter (1913)	C. V. Neely, Secretary 4939 Greenwood Avenue	Protection of Native Wild Flowers	National publications available

Organization	Moving Spirit	Emphasis	Remarks
Hull House (1889)	Founded by Jane Addams 800 S. Halsted	To provide a higher civic and social life	"Labor Museum" to show evolution of Textile Industry. Joseph T. Bowen County Club, a 72 acre farm with resident gardener to preserve its beauty
The Geographic Society of Chicago (1898)	Herbert E. Bradley 7 South Dearborn Street	Geography appreciation	Excursions, conservation, publications, exhibits, lectures, collections. Over 1000 members
Outing and Recreation Bureau	72 W. Adams St.	Issues guides descrip- tive of hiking trails and current recrea- tional attractions	A free service for all. Maintained by public utility companies
Morton Arboretum (1921)	Joy Morton Lisle, Ill. C. E. Godshalk, Superintendent	An outdoor museum of woody plants	400 acre tract 25 miles west of Chi- cago. Emphasizes that it is "an edu- cational institution and not a recrea- tional center."
Conservation Council	Catherine Mitchell, Secretary 144 Fairbank Rd. Riverside, Ill.	A federation to guide the conservation movement	Delegates represent membership of 20,000. Meet once a month
Field Museum of Natural History	Stephen C. Simms Director Margaret Cornell Education Dept. Grant Park	Natural History Exhibit	Children admitted free. 11 acres of ex- hibits. Free lecture tours and illus- trated lectures
Shedd Aquarium	Walter H. Chute Director Grant Park	Exhibition Tanks of aquatic life, mostly fish	Children admitted free
Adler Planetarium	Philip Fox, Director Grant Park	The Universe in Miniature	Demonstration lectures at 11 A.M. and 3 P.M. Astronomical museum. Children admitted free mornings
Museum of Science and Industry	O. T. Kreusser Director Jackson Park at 57th	Physical Sciences	Has many of World's Fair Exhibits. An operating coal mine
Chicago Academy of Sciences	Alfred M. Bailey Director 2001 N. Clark	Mammals, birds, and plants of Chicago district	Free lectures Sunday afternoons
Lincoln Park	N. Clark and Center	Zoo, Birdhouse, Aquarium, and Conservatory	Facilities for fly-casting. 5 acre bird sanctuary (1918) where mallards breed
Washington Park	57th and Cottage Grove	Conservatory	Domestic and exotic plants. Formal gardens
Garfield Park	100 N. Central Park	Conservatory	Bananas and cacti
Humboldt Park	North and Humboldt	Gardens	Beautiful rose gardens and landscaping
Cook County Forest Preserves (1915)	Charles G. Sauers General Supt.	Recreation	33,000 acres for play Museum at Thatcher's Woods
Dunes Park of Indiana	Tremont, Indiana	Beach and Dune	1500 acres, 40 miles southeast of Chi- cago. Has resident nature guide in summer
Brookfield Zoo (Chicago Zoologi- cal Society)	Brookfield	Animals cageless and apparently in native habitat	Children accompanied by adults free. Like most Zoos is in the "Amuse- ment stage" of education. Acres of grounds
Board of Education Bureau of Recreation	Herman J. Fischer 228 North LaSalle	Nature activities (mostly an athletic program)	61 playgrounds. Optional, competitive, on point basis for felt emblems. Must have 20 children for a hike. Points awarded on mileage basis
Chicago Park District	V. K. Brown, Director of Recreation	Recreational activities	115 Parks with 201 Playgrounds
Chicago Woman's Club—Forest and Garden Class	Michigan Avenue and 11th Street	Conservation Legislation	Monthly meetings. Discussion groups and lectures
Board of Education Department of Education	William J. Bogan, Superintendent of Schools, 228 N. LaSalle Street	Units of work in grades	Supervisor of elementary science "dis- continued for reasons of economy." Curriculum grades 1-6. Some schools have departmental plan, grades 7 and 8

# Hartford's Racial Culture Program

A Connecticut city takes advantage of the historical and cultural traditions of the state to promote citizenship

THE FIELD of recreation is limited only by the restrictions of intelligence and ingenuity. Its fertility and flexibility offer an ever-present opportunity that alert minds can convert into inestimable value. It is confined to no hard and fast rules that dull initiative, deaden ambition and stifle enthusiasm. Rather, it fosters and encourages new means and methods of furnishing education and entertainment. The extent and nature of the medium depends only on the enterprise and energy of the sponsors.

The Recreation Division of the Hartford, Connecticut, Park Department, has proven these facts by a series of racial culture programs that widened the recreation vista and furnished a splendid example of the value and importance of adapting a current event to augment a carefully planned, well-balanced recreation schedule.

Connecticut, rich in history and tradition and proud that it is one of the original thirteen states, observed last year the tercentenary anniversary of its settling by hardy pioneers from the Massachusetts Bay colony way back in 1635. It was not an ordinary two-day or a week's celebration, but an entire year's affair that was inaugurated last January and did not conclude until January 1936 rolled around.



By

JOHN M. HURLEY  
Park Department  
Hartford, Connecticut

Every municipality, from the largest city to the tiniest hamlet, participated with colorful exercises of every description, but it remained for James H. Dillon, supervisor of Hartford's recreation, to turn the event to practical recreation purposes. He did

this in a simple yet highly effective manner.

A study of census analyses revealed the nationalities and races that comprised the city's population. Representative leaders of each group were called to a general meeting when plans were drafted and a schedule outlined. Mr. Dillon guaranteed the use of the municipal open air dance pavilion in Colt Park, an ideal setting with a large, well-equipped stage and platform, a spacious, open forefront and a natural background of gentle slopes and green trees. He also agreed to furnish lighting, adequate policing and seating facilities and his own personnel to serve as ushers, gate tenders and attendants.

One night was set apart for each group and the programs spaced so that no more than three were scheduled for one week. Mr. Dillon's staff took no part whatsoever in the preparation of the programs, that task being left entirely in the hands of the group representatives. This decision, incidentally, proved a wise move. In the first place, it would be practically impossible to obtain



a dramatics supervisor capable of training such cosmopolitan casts. In the second place, it added zest to the interest of the participants to train under the direction of a fellow national who spoke their tongue and knew their folk lore, history, traditions and costumes.

The first program was given August 31 by the Germans of Hartford, and when 2,200 persons turned out to enjoy a series of Teutonic songs and dances the sponsors were highly elated and entirely unprepared for the spontaneous popularity of the programs that were to follow.

At intervals of a few days, the series continued. The Danes and Norwegians, second on the list, drew 2,500 as did the Chinese and Negroes. The attendance kept mounting night by night as the popularity of the project spread until 4,000 were on hand for "Armenians' Night," 5,000 for the Ukrainians, 4,500 for the French-Canadians and 6,000 to set a record when the Italian program was presented.

The approach of the chill nights of fall and the impracticability of continuing outdoor programs presented a problem until Mr. Dillon solved it by inducing Warner Brothers to donate the use of the darkened State Theater on one of the principal streets in Hartford's business center. Indoors, the programs were more popular than ever, playing nightly to packed houses, although the seating capacity was not equal to the outdoor setting. However, the Swedish program attracted 3,000, the Irish 3,500, the Hungarians 2,500, the Russians 4,000, the Portugese 2,000, the second Negro program 2,500 and the Polish 3,500.

"The racial culture series proved one of the most popular and successful recreation projects ever attempted in Hartford," Mr. Dillon declares. "The enthusiasm of the participants, young and old, was amazing. Some of them rehearsed nightly for weeks, and the opportunity to display in public the dances and songs and costumes of their native lands gave them greater enjoyment even than the audience. And it is a significant fact that the attendance never was confined to the nationality that was presenting the program. For instance, the Ukrainians, who comprise but a small portion of our population, had an audience of 5,000 and the Chinese were enjoyed by 2,500. The same was true of all the others."

None of the programs, of course, were alike, and the rivalry between the groups really was so intense they went to extremes to procure the finest talent. The Danes and Norwegians, for in-

stance, featured a sketch, "The Little Match Girl," from the Hans Christian Andersen play, which was directed by Mrs. Dagmar Potholm Petersen, of Portland, Maine, former student in the Copenhagen Royal Theater who was summering nearby.

The Chinese engaged a professional native orchestra from New York to augment a local quartette, and 2,000 year old music was played on native instruments without the services of even a conductor. The Community Negro Chorus, as well as soloists, quartettes and dancers, gave a program of Negro spirituals and folk dances, and when the Armenians had their night they were directed by H. Mehrab, of New York, a graduate of the Russian Imperial Conservatory and, until the revolution, director of the Armenian National Chorus in the Caucasus and Armenia.

More than 300 took part in the Ukrainian program by a Ukrainian Folk Ballet and two Ukrainian choruses in native costumes, while colorful music, dancing and pageantry featured the French-Canadian night. The Italians with the names of Verdi, Puccini and Mascagni starring a program of operatic numbers drew the record attendance of 6,000, and jigs, reels and hornpipes were the order when the Irish entertained. Gay and lusty folk dances and examples of their persuasive and varied songs were presented by the Swedish people.

Fifty singers and twenty-five dancers presented the Lithuanian program, which included a scene, "The Birute," from Mikas Petrauskas' modern opera, "Sacrifice," representing a flaming altar where sixteen "vaidilytes," or virgin priestesses, performed a liturgy. Although there are only about forty Hungarian families in Hartford, Hungarian night was attended, in spite of a severe storm, by 2,500 persons, who enjoyed the presentation of artists imported from the world famous Hungarian Gypsy Revue of New York.

The music of old Russia, from the great cathedral chants to gypsy melodies of the cross-roads, was the high mark of the Russian program, while the music and dances of Portugal were presented by the Portugese, and the Polish group brought the series to a close with a splendid portrayal of native dancing, singing and acting.

Naturally, the series was widely acclaimed, so much so that it came to the official attention of the city fathers with the result that the Board of Aldermen took the unusual action of requesting the Recreation Division to continue the programs

(Continued on page 522)

# Vocational Guidance

## Through the

## Organized Club

By

LOUIS H. SOBEL

**T**HE POSSIBILITIES of vocational guidance in the junior and senior high school and college have been recognized for many years, as they have been in other formal educational set-ups such as continuation and vocational schools, social service institutions devoted to the education and care of underprivileged youth and in the rehabilitation of adults who have lost their vocations through incapacitation in civil and military life. Particularly striking is the growing use of vocational guidance in all social work fields. Its value in the adjustment process is becoming increasingly recognized, and social agencies dealing with behavior problems, emotional instability and other manifestations of maladjustment are making better use of its possibilities.

In view of this it is surprising to note a failure to recognize the applicability of vocational guidance in a particularly fertile field—that of the organized club.

Throughout the country several million boys and girls between the ages of ten and twenty (some younger, some older, but with the concentration within this range), are participating actively in club activities affiliated with schools, boys' clubs, Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., Y. M. H. A., Y. W. H. A., Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and similar organizations. These clubs, properly organized and conducted, may combine the best features of progressive education and advanced social work.

In his discussion of vocational guidance and the club, Mr. Sobel, who is Executive Director, Jewish Community Center, Detroit, pointed out a number of the factors entering into the value of the club as an important field for vocational guidance—among them the relationship of leader to member, of member to member, and the opportunity for long-term, dynamic guidance. We are presenting here the sections of Mr. Sobel's paper dealing with the values, for vocational guidance, of hobby activities and leisure time interests.

The club has always been recognized as a potent educational force in the life of the participant. The voluntary membership, the intimate inter-play of personality factors, the fine relationships between club leader and club member, the strong friendships and the powerful group attitudes, play a part far out of proportion to the time usually allotted these activities. The very educational effectiveness of the club and the strong hold it usually takes on the boys and girls give it tremendous possibilities in attempts at "life advisement" in any of its phases—mental, social, physical, spiritual or vocational.

Of fundamental importance in any guidance program is the need for a knowledge of the emotional, temperamental and personality qualities of the individual seeking guidance. Success, or vocational adequacy, is as often as not determined by these imponderable personality elements. The guidance set-ups in the schools and social agencies can determine personality only to a limited degree, and it is in the direction of exploring and exploiting (for guidance purposes) these determining impalpable factors that the club can make its unique contribution to vocational guidance. For it is in the club that the boy or girl gives overt expression to socially significant behavior. The ability to "rub elbows," the capacity for leadership and organization, traits such as reliability, trustworthiness and the per-

sistency in the execution of club tasks, are manifested continually. It is in the club that activities are enjoyed requiring the use of special skills such as arts and crafts, drawing, music, dramatics, journalism, public speaking, photography, and so on down the long list of hobby activities that make up a club program.

### Hobbies and Vocational Guidance

That these latter offer vocational guidance opportunities for the alert counselor goes without saying. They constitute excellent "try-out" possibilities when utilized as such.

Altogether too little attention is paid the possibilities for vocational guidance which lie in the development of what are commonly called leisure-time hobby activities, and very often we get a complete dissociation of avocation and recreational activity from the vocational concerns of the individual.

Two concrete examples point to opportunities in directing the avocational towards the vocational with excellent results. A thirteen year old boy in Yonkers, New York, developed a leisure-time interest in the breeding of rare tropical fish. Beginning with a few exchanges and small cash transactions, he developed a business that today (the boy is now fifteen) requires two full time employees and runs into several thousand dollars per year. The boy is still in school and, as may be guessed, pursuing his "hobby" with increased fervor.

Another situation. Two boys in a New York City Y. M. C. A. with a taste for commercial art lettering decided to put their

interest to more profitable use. They toured their neighborhood and listed all stores and commercial enterprises whose wares could be made more saleable by attractive display. They visited the proprietors and offered to make the necessary signs on a "pay if you are satisfied" basis. These boys secured enough business to see them through many situations and are now on the road to the development of a profitable business in commercial sign making. Incidentally both of these developments took place during the last four years—the depression period.

Such situations are, of course, not limited to club life, but when one thinks of the amount of time spent by clubs on "hobby" activities such as aeronautics, radio, music, dramatics, arts and crafts, journalism, etc., the implications are obvious. In addition, the more general traits of manipulative dexterity, creativity, ingenuity, habits of industriousness and orderliness, all manifest themselves in the specific hobbies. Many of these resemble vocational situations to a degree that makes vocational prognosis feasible in many cases; that is, as feasible as they can be in any vocational guidance program.

To many the club is the core of their more meaningful experiences; it becomes a dominant force in their lives



*Courtesy Extension Department, Milwaukee Public Schools*



The most obvious factor in the two cases referred to is that of interest. The boys were so vitally interested in their hobbies that they overcame many obstacles. Vocational guidance authorities everywhere agree that the most important single element in vocational success (assuming that the basic capacities are at all present) is interest. There is verification for this theory in the fact that the highest single factor correlative with success in the few scientific studies available is this item of interest. Attempts at vocational guidance that do not motivate zestfulness and an enthusiastic reception on the part of the boy are doomed to failure.

The development of positive, specific, driving interests is one of the first tasks of the experienced counselor. The club can be utilized tremendously in this direction. One cannot but be impressed with the absorption of boys or girls in the activities of their clubs. To many the club is the core of their more meaningful experiences. It becomes a dominant force in their lives. Whether or not it is a constructive force depends, of course, upon the leadership. In any event, even superficial contact with the emotional intensity of club activity will convince one of its possibilities in the attempt to develop interests, enthusiasms and the compelling, propelling "drive" that made possible the success of the boys in the two instances cited above.

#### Coordination with Home and Community

Another important factor in guidance is the sympathetic cooperation of the parents and older brothers and sisters of the guided. Many guidance programs have failed for the sole reason that they have not included coordination with the home. The club, because of the closer personal relationships between member and member and leader and member, makes it possible to include the home as a cooperating force. A special type of parental education may be

#### SUMMARY

The well-guided organized club offers vocational guidance a valuable tool because —

a. It permits continuous study and analysis of the imponderable subtle personality elements.

b. It offers specific pseudo-vocational "hobby" activity with "try-out" possibilities.

c. It offers highly necessary character and personality training opportunities.

d. It permits of close rapport with the home, school and other influences touching the youth.

e. It can be effective in motivating the boy or girl toward a vital, positive, *interest* in a specific field; a *sine qua non* of genuine vocational adequacy.

f. It can help overcome constructively the destructive effects of the depression, and properly orient our youth in a highly changing and confusing world.

necessary, of course, particularly in certain racial or sectarian groups where rigid traditions and social patterns make for restricted vocational selection.

Coordination must take place not only with the home but with the other influences at work on the boy—the church, the school, the block or immediate neighborhood, the job and any other force that has a role in molding the character of the youth. Here again the club, with its untrammelled traditions,

general approbation in the community and central position that it holds in the life of the member, can play an important part. The religious leaders, teachers and employers in the community can be called upon to give counsel, act on advisory committees and supply information under club auspices. Their aid and cooperation under such circumstances have an informality that adds to its effectiveness.

#### Training in Necessary Character Qualities

Ultimately vocational guidance must be a function of personality training and growth, and good "life advisement" will take place as a concomitant of good character education. No vocational guidance counselor can consider his task complete without attention to the problem of developing those character traits which make for vocational success or adequacy. Habits of industriousness, good workmanship, punctuality, orderliness, trustworthiness and other qualities too numerous to mention are accepted prerequisites of success and the "satisfaction" through achievement that make for personal happiness.

The effective club has always been thought of as a powerful force in the development of these qualities. Throughout the literature on the club there is constant reference to these character-building objectives. Witness the claims of the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Y. M. C. A., Y. M. H. A., boys' clubs, settlement

houses, etc. The wise clinical or school counselor will utilize the character-developing possibilities of the club in his vocational guidance program.

### **Clubs Offset Destructive Effects of the Depression**

The most difficult problem faced by vocational guidance counselors today is the devastating effect of the depression on the spirit and morale of the young men and women coming to them for guidance.

A feeling of hopelessness, of not being wanted, of having no place in the world is rapidly besetting our adolescent youth. "What's the good of vocational guidance?" they say. "Give me any job." One of them actually compared vocational guidance to the act of giving men on the breadline a knowledge of dietetics and nutrition laws. This spirit obtains even in the close relationship of the interview situation. In addressing groups of young men at the New York State Employment Office, in schools and elsewhere, the writer has sensed it as the prevailing mood in the audience. As a matter of fact, many in these groups have expressed it directly, even to the point of cynicism.

In an economically contracting world in which there is a growing army of permanently unemployed and in which technological changes make for continual increases in our "unemployables," the answer to the questions of our youth cannot be mere beatific expressions of hope, or lip service to a better social order in which such things will be impossible. If the growing despair and demoralization of our youth are to be properly channeled and directed towards constructive ends, a program for this purpose under proper guidance must be set up lest such control fall into improper hands. Any attempt at guidance which fails to include these broader socio-economic considerations may be compared to the practice of medicine which neglects to consider the health conditions of the home, neighborhood and communities of the patient.

The supervised club offers an excellent medium for providing the educational and mental hygiene antidotes necessary to overcome the current negative attitudes of our youth. The group gives the boy or girl a sense of belonging; of having a place in the world. The feelings of satisfaction and achievement that come

with social approbation go a long way towards counteracting disappointments in the vocational world.

Even beyond this antidotal function the club, with its relatively unhampered program, can provide training for constructive participation in communal and civic projects aimed at eliminating the basic socio-economic factors behind our current ills. Youth can be intelligently prepared for the new social order, or better still, can be directed towards taking a sane, intelligent part in its construction through positive club programs in that direction.

### **Practical Steps Necessary**

Enough has been said here to indicate the potentialities of the club as a guidance medium. What are the practical steps necessary to assure the effective execution of a projected program of advisement through the organized group? It must be apparent that the beginnings, at least, lie in the following:

1. Selection of adequately trained leadership, club leaders to come on the job with a guidance background if possible. If not, they must be given such training as soon as possible.
2. A special library of guidance literature for leaders and members, including all standard material usually provided in such a library.
3. If possible the setting up of a testing bureau or contact with adequate clinics in the community.
4. Contact with socially-minded, "guidance-conscious" placement offices, if placement is not already a function of the organization of which the club is a part.
5. Provision for adequate record keeping.
6. Provision of a program for training parents in the meaning and spirit of vocational guidance.
7. Analysis of all club activities from guidance point of view and for purposes of indicating their vocational and "try-out" possibilities.
8. The club program itself may consist of:
  - a. Informal talks on guidance and specific occupational information for purpose of widening vocational horizon of members.
  - b. Trips to industries.
  - c. Movies, slides, readings.

*(Continued on page 522)*

## A Hiking Club for Women

**W**ALKING as an activity is physically beneficial. Add to this the social benefits of companionship; the educational benefits of nature study at first hand, the broadening aspect of exploring and visiting new localities, the joy one gets from being out in the open, and the sum total indicates an activity of real significance.

Seattle, Washington, is favorably located with mountains, forest and water at its very doors. Seventy miles to the east extend the beautiful Cascades, with five outstanding snow capped peaks and many hundred lesser peaks. To the west, separating the extensive inland sea of Puget Sound from the Pacific Ocean, lies the rugged and partially unmapped Olympic range. All of this provides a wonderland of outdoor opportunity. Hiking and outing clubs should flourish in such surroundings, and many such organizations are in existence.

The Sails and Trails Club, a women's hiking organization, is one of several in Seattle, but it is the only one to be sponsored by the Playground Division of the Municipal Park Department. The club still holds its popularity through its original objective of pleasurable and worthwhile trips at small expense. In the fall of 1929 an overnight party was organized through the local recreation centers for a group of thirty-five young women who had a most enjoyable week-end outing at the municipally owned playground camp on the shores of Lake Washington. These women were all working girls or young housewives. "Why can't we do this again?" was the question. Out of this week-end outing grew the hiking club which was named "Sails" for boats on which they might travel and

"So come along and sail with us,  
Hike a happy trail with us,  
Breast sun and rain and gale with us,  
And we'll be comrades true."

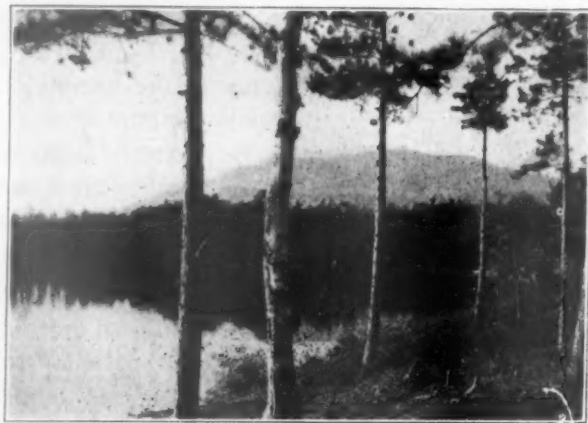
"Trails" for the trails and roads over which they might hike. The club has grown to a self-sustaining organization of 145 members. Hikes are planned regularly, at least once a

month, and from 15 to 80 attend, depending on the weather and type of trip.

### Some Organization Details

At the beginning one representative from each field house was asked to serve on an executive committee, thus providing a general representation from the different sections of the city. With the director of girls' activities representing the Park Department, this made eight members on the governing board. Sub-committees were appointed for publicity, scouting, membership, memory book and photographs. The officers elected were a president and secretary-treasurer. Trips were planned for each month, and a calendar of activities for six months in advance was printed. Publicity was obtained by posters in recreation centers and the central Y.W.C.A., and calendars and notices were left with the personnel directors of the downtown stores and the teachers' league secretary.

The first general organization has proven satisfactory and has been maintained over a period of six years with a few minor changes. The executive board at first served one year and was then replaced by an entirely new board elected by the old one. A revolving plan has now been worked out whereby each board member serves one year and a half; every six months three older members, according to seniority, are retired and three new girls from the membership at large take their place. A balance is





still maintained so that each community is represented. Dues are one dollar a year. To be considered eligible for membership a girl must attend two trips. General meetings are not necessary and therefore not held, all planning being done by the committee. The important thing is the outing!

### Where Do They Go?

There are many places of interest. Ferries, busses and street cars carry the hikers to starting points for beach, trail and mountains at a cost within reach of the girls of modest salaries. By chartering special busses, the club members can have a full day's outing in Alpine meadows with a strenuous hike over mountain trails for as little as one dollar per person, this price including a beverage and sometimes a hot dish. Less strenuous local trips can be had for as little as fifteen cents round trip boat fare across Lake Washington, or fifty cents across Puget Sound.

The winter snow trips have proven most popular. The Seattle Park Department has recently acquired a municipal mountain ski course at the summit of Snoqualmie Pass in the Cascade range—a two hour drive from the city. Volunteer ski instructors are glad to accompany the group and spend a part of the day giving instruction in both beginning and advanced skiing. This has added interest to the snow trips and has done much to popularize this growing sport.

As a group the club has explored many miles of countryside and visited many beautiful and interesting sports. Several of the trips have become annual. In May they cross to some point on the opposite shores of Puget Sound where the rhododendron is to be found. It is a worthwhile sight to see this beautiful state flower in its natural growth and bloom. In December they go tramping for Christmas greens, and it is a colorful sight to see the group in bright jackets and caps, with their arms full of greens, coming down a trail through the brown winter woods. Care has to be taken, however, to obtain permission to cut greens on property, either private or state, as too much indiscriminate cutting has been stripping

At the present time the national government is laying plans to complete a skyline trail 1500 miles in length running along the Coastal Divide from Mexico to Canada. The trail will follow the Divide, zig-zagging from side to side of the rugged range, seeking the most favorable walking grade through alpine meadows, across glaciers and mountain valleys, and around the more inaccessible peaks. The trail will be entirely owned by the public. Many miles of trails are already open and in use. The skyline trail will connect and extend those already built. In the East, the famous Appalachian Trail permits the hiker to tramp from Maine to Georgia over 1900 miles of beautiful trails. Although it is not owned by the public, shelter cabins have been built and the route is maintained by individuals and private groups.

the forests. Bird lovers sometimes accompany the hikers and instruct them in the lives and habits of the local birds. Coal mines, creosote factories, brick kilns, power houses and other such places of local importance add interest to the hikes. The University of Washington faculty may always be called upon for speakers on nature lore, geology, marine life and related subjects, who present informative talks on the hikes.

The club has necessarily had to set a few definite policies. Of primary importance is consideration of the safety

of the group. Trips are never made under the auspices of the club in private cars but always in chartered busses with bonded drivers, or in public conveyances such as street cars, ferries and busses. Activities are almost entirely one day outings. Overnight trips tend to limit the group. However, by popular request two overnight trips are scheduled each year. Ice skating in the civic indoor arena is also included in the winter program, and one social event is held at a field house center.

### What It Means

Aside from the pleasure that each individual woman gets from the outings, many worthwhile friendships have grown up in the club. Many of the girls participate in the field house sport classes, and it is felt that the club has definitely helped to foster a friendly spirit among the girls in the athletic leagues. Photography has proven a never ending source of interest, and a flourishing camera club has come into being with several recently installed basement dark rooms.

The organization in Seattle has found the enthusiastic support which seems to be an indication of a general interest in hiking and mountaineering activities. Especially is this interest going to grow with the impetus given it by the National Forest Service trail development and the growing interest in skiing and winter activities.

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"Traveling afoot! This is the best posture in which to worship the God of the Out-of-Doors!"  
John H. Finley in *The Art of Walking*.

# WORLD AT PLAY



## A Drama Tournament Held Outdoors

New Jersey conducted a drama tournament at the outdoor theatre at Cadwalader Park, Trenton, one of the six outdoor theatres in the state. Groups from ten counties presented twenty plays at this novel outdoor tournament. Shakespeare's "Midsummer Night's Dream," and "Twelfth Night" were among the plays presented.

## Playground Associations in Reading, Pa.

READING, Pennsylvania, has a number of playground associations composed of the parents of the children attending the playgrounds. Last year these groups raised \$4,000, \$3,500 of which was spent on playground equipment. In order to raise the money, the associations held fifty festivals and sold cakes, ice cream, and soft drinks.

## Ford Field To Be Given Dearborn

will receive from Henry Ford for use as a park the property known as Ford Field, which for many years has been used as a recreation field. There are over twenty acres in the plot.

IN September the Recreation Division of the Emergency Administration of

READING, Pennsylvania, has a number of playground associations composed

NEGOTIATIONS are under way whereby the City of Dearborn, Michigan,

## New Recreation Areas in Great Britain

Britain reports that the Crown forests, of which the New Forest and the Forest of Dean are the two most important areas, are already fully available for public access subject to regulations and by-laws governing such matters as camping and motor car parking, as well as the litter nuisance. The normal forestry areas which have been developed under the direction of the Forestry Commission are not yet available for public access. These young forests, of course, have been planted on scientific lines and almost entirely consist of conifers, and it is felt that the risk of fires is ever present when the public are allowed to stray.

## Melodrama Under the Stars!

AS a novel feature of Dearborn Day, the civic holiday which for nine years has brought together thousands of residents of Dearborn, Michigan, the City Recreation Department this year presented "Gold in the Hills," a melodrama of the 10, 20 and 30 cent days so dear to the hearts of theatre goers of the gay nineties. The melodrama was one of the closing events of a day of games and sports designed to "offer an opportunity for the citizens of the community to mingle in a day's sport and to get better acquainted."

**A Tennis Center for Beverly Hills**—Beverly Hills, California, is planning for a new tennis center to cost \$29,600. This low cost is made possible by the fact that the courts are being built on the top of the city reservoir which was made of concrete and was built especially to support tennis courts. The new center will have parking space for more than twenty-five cars, a club house, a broad promenade 10 by 394 feet equipped with umbrellas and outdoor settees, and a 10 foot high glass windbreak on the coastal side. All of the courts will be divided by four foot high walls to give an atmosphere of privacy. It is believed that the operating costs will be met with charges of 40 cents per hour for daytime play and 80 cents per hour for play under lights. This will make the cost for people taking part in doubles 10 cents per hour during the day and 20 cents per hour at night.

**With the Audubon Societies**—At the annual meeting of the National Association of Audubon Societies held in New York October 28-29, it was reported that there has been an increase of 190 per cent in enrollment over last year among members in Junior Audubon Clubs. If the increase continues for the rest of the year, it was predicted, there will be more than 350,000 children actively engaged in protecting American wild life. In many schools the bird club is by far the most popular extra-curricular activity.

**At the Essex County Crime Conference**—Approximately 1,110 persons were registered at the Essex County Crime Conference held in Newark, New Jersey, on Friday, October 25th. It brought together leaders in all fields of social welfare in the county to hear discussed the conference theme, "Prevention and Control of Crime Through Community Cooperation." The enforcement of law, treatment of offenders and prevention of crime were topics for each of the three sessions. Hon. Joseph Siegler, Judge, Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, Essex County, suggested as correctives to juvenile delinquency the establishment of crime prevention units in police departments, community councils, modification of school curricula, establishment of recreation centers and razing of slums.

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The January issue contains a full page plan for "A Recreational Unit for Youngsters." The plan is divided into three recreational units . . . An active play area . . . A quiet play area and a "Recreation Center" . . . and contains many interesting groupings of various recreational projects for children from 3 to 7 years of age. This is the first of a series of plans with detailed building instructions for recreational units for children and adults.

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Among the resolutions adopted at the closing session was one recommending a study by state and municipal authorities of plans worked out by the State Housing Authority and by courts, recreation and leisure time organizations, for elimination of slums and provision for leisure time. A special committee to give further consideration to the proposals that were made at the conference is to be named.

**News from the Union County Park Commission**—In the ten year period from 1922 to 1932, 330 parcels of land were purchased by the Union County Park Commission, 34 parcels of land were condemned, and donations of 41 parcels were received making the total number of properties acquired 405. One of the most recent gifts is that of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick G. Squier of Rahway who gave to the Commission 17 acres of valuable property.

**Physical Education Program Expanded**—All the students at Kenyon College, Gambier,

Ohio, are required to earn credits in physical education before they graduate. Recently, according to the Cincinnati Inquirer, a new plan has been devised whereby in order to obtain credit each student will be required to demonstrate proficiency in five of a group of sports including football, basketball, baseball, track, cross country, wrestling, boxing, speed ball and touch football. They must also participate in six of the following: Tennis, golf, bait casting, archery, Badminton, horseshoes, swimming, polo, table tennis, bowling, handball, riding, volley ball, indoor ball, rifle shooting, billiards, and hiking. Instead of a routine of gymnasium classes, Kenyon students will develop at their leisure skill in the activities in which they are interested. To aid the students in becoming proficient, periods of instruction have been scheduled but attendance is not compulsory.

**Academic Credit Given for Stamp Collecting**—The University Extension Division of Harvard University has inaugurated a course in

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stamp collecting which will be accepted for a college grade and will count toward a degree. As a beginning a series of eight lectures by specialists in their field has been arranged.

**The Audubon Camps**—The National Association of Audubon Societies will open in June the Audubon Nature Camp the purpose of which is "promotion of nature study enthusiasts armed with definite project programs for the ensuing year." The camp will be located at the Todd wildlife sanctuary on Hog Island in Muscongus Bay, Maine, where there is a wealth of wild life and flowers. A staff of specialists will concentrate instruction on field observation and on methods which they and others have found effective in imparting information to children in a way which will sustain their interest. The study of birds, mammals and flowers will be stressed and that of marine life and the stars will be treated. The minimum period of enrollment will be two weeks. The camp will be operated from about the middle of June to September 11th. Further information may be secured from the National Association of Audubon Societies, 1775 Broadway, New York City.

**A Park of 14,000 Acres**—A park covering nearly 14,000 acres of mountain country on the Pocono plateau in eastern Pennsylvania will be developed by the Rural Resettlement Administration in cooperation with the National Park Service, according to an announcement in the New York Times made by Allen W. Manchester, Regional Director of the Division of Land Utilization. The area, which is being acquired at a cost of about \$100,000, is adjacent to large industrial centers and a few miles from the largest mine works in the world at Palmerton. It will be known as Hickory Run Park.

**A Nurses' Hobby Show**—A notable hobby show was that sponsored in New York on November 14th and 15th by the Committee on Eight Hours for Nurses of the New York Counties Registered Nurses Association. Known as the Nurses' Hobby Show, it was part of an educational campaign undertaken by a professional group seeking shorter hours of work and longer hours of leisure, and was a demonstration designed to advance what this group will do with their increased leisure when and if they get it! The handcraft projects were

## Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles  
of Interest to the Recreation Worker

### MAGAZINES

#### *Parks and Recreation*, November 1935

Salt Lake City's New Park Development, by Jessie Schofield

Hartford's Music Shell, by John M. Hurley

Good Planning May Transform Ways of Living

Chahiukapa Park at Wahpeton, N.D., by J. R. Hughes

#### *Parents' Magazine*, December 1935

Winter Sports for the Whole Family, by Charles G. Muller

Family Fun, by Elizabeth King

#### *Leisure*, December 1935

A Winter of Health, by Walter B. Grover

An Old English Christmas Party, by Sara H. Carleton

Young America Spreads Its Wings, by Albert Lewis

Skate and Bowl, by Charles King

#### *The National Parent-Teacher Magazine*, December 1935

Planning a Permanent Program for Youth, by John W. Studebaker

#### *The Journal of Health and Physical Education*, December 1935

Olympic Preparations in Germany

New Frontiers for Recreation—the National Recreation Congress Reviewed

A Demonstration of Co-recreational Fun, by H. D. Edgren

Circle Pole Ball, by L. Maude Norris

Fools' Gold—a game with a medieval plot, by Spencer C. Woolley

#### *Trails Magazine*, Autumn 1935

Why Do We Have Winter Sports? by James K. Reid

#### *The Girl Scout Leader*, December 1935

The Ancient Craft of the Wood Carver, by Chester Marsh

#### *The Jewish Center*, December 1935

Dramatics for Amateurs, by William Pinsker and Mrs. Ruth Levin Rubin

Awards, by Leslie Flaksman

#### *Scholastic Coach*, December 1935

Lifetime Sports, by R. E. Lindwall

### PAMPHLETS

*Annual Report of Parks and Recreation, Commissioners of Worcester, Mass.*, 1934

Newark Recreation Department

*Legislation Concerning Early Childhood Education*

by Ward W. Keesecker and Mary Dabney Dairs.

Pamphlet No. 62—Office of Education, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. Price \$0.05

*Safe at Home*

National Safety Council, 20 North Wacker Drive, Chicago, Ill.

*An Anatomy of Leisure*, by Mrs. Rolla Southworth

Florida Emergency Relief Administration, Exchange Building, Jacksonville, Florida

*European Study Groups for Physical Education and Recreation Abroad*

Pocono Study Tours, Inc., 67 Stevenson Place, New York City

**SCHOOL AND SOCIETY**

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examples of fine workmanship. They included bookbinding and pottery, jewelry making, knitting, crocheting, rug making, wood work and tin craft. There were exhibits of table setting and flower arrangement. Literature and information telling where one could swim, play tennis, roller skate, ski, rest and travel were available. Hobby books were on exhibition. Each hospital displayed a scrap book showing the social activities of nursing groups. Thousands of people attended the exhibit and much interest was aroused.

**Recreation for Adults**—The Los Angeles, California, Playground and Recreation Department reports a growing demand for leisure time facilities and activities for adults. Because of this change in the character of playground attendance many new developments have been made necessary such as an increase in the number and variety of special facilities and equipment for adult education, many of them segregated from the children's play areas. These include card rooms, chess and checker pergolas, horseshoe courts, and the like. An extension of the activity program has become necessary with new emphasis on old-fashioned dancing, social gatherings, card clubs, community sings, music, and arts and crafts.

**Recreational Developments in Toledo**—In Toledo, Ohio, the recreation program has been greatly expanded through the use of WPA workers. In November, ninety of these workers and eight supervisors conducted varied activities in twenty-two centers—twelve in the buildings of private organizations, five in school buildings, and the others in city buildings. Gordon Jeffery, in charge of recreation, is acting as Park Superintendent and has under his supervision twenty-five WPA laborers working on the building of athletic fields, tennis courts, skating rinks, the improvement of golf courses and roads, and similar projects.

## Auto Trips—America's Chief Form of Recreation

**D**R. HENRY S. CURTIS of Ann Arbor, Michigan, as the result of a study made of the vacation activities of school children of that city, has reached the conclusion that driving is our chief form of recreation and its importance increases from year to year. Of the 4711 school children studied, 2238, 47.5 percent went on "long" trips, averaging 550 miles per round trip. This was a much larger number than took part in any other form of recreation. Of these trips 1920, 85 percent were by auto. If we include in this count the shorter trips of from 25 to 50 miles, about 90 percent of the children come into the count. Practically all of these short trips were by auto, and the auto on all trips held a fraction more than five people, so that we must multiply this mileage by five to get its family value.

"Driving is accessory to most other forms of recreation. In this way we are able to pay visits to near and distant relatives and friends, and go to the mountains or seashore for week-ends and holidays. It is our chief way of getting to our exercise, to the golf course or beach. Even for a walk the auto is an almost necessary auxiliary for the city dweller, for it may be miles from our home to anywhere we would care to walk. The auto is a family conveyance. It costs little more to carry five or six than it does to carry one, and driving is about the only thing the American family does together. The auto is well adapted for sightseeing if we do not go too fast. In order to yield results, travel should be leisurely. Driving is a very democratic mode of traveling. We have some 26,000,000 autos in America—enough to carry our 126,000,000 people. It is said that 40,000,000 people visited our national parks last summer.

"The rapid increase in the number of caravans or trailers is going on. It probably costs no more to live in a caravan which occupies a new site every day than it does to live at home, and the gas for 200 miles a day probably costs no more than the rent of a summer cottage."

Dr. Curtis pointed out the need for good county, state, and national directories which will locate the places of historical, educational, social, industrial and scenic significance. "There are numerous educational possibilities



## Among Our Folks

**C**HARLES K. BRIGHTBILL, formerly a member of the staff of the Department of Public Playgrounds and Recreation, Reading, Pennsylvania, has been appointed Superintendent of Recreation in Decatur, Illinois.

Carl H. Schmitt has been appointed Superintendent of Recreation in Millburn, New Jersey, to succeed John Fox who has resigned.

Word has been received of the death of Hugh C. Coleman, Director of Recreation, San Jose, California.

Sophie Fishback, who for seven years has been Director of the Department of Public Recreation at Lakewood, Ohio, has resigned to become National Adviser of the Women's Benefit Association. Commenting on the situation in Lakewood, the *Lakewood Courier* for November 14th says: "Two major catastrophes have whirled clouds of threatening danger over the heads of Lakewood's youth, hitting the city Recreation Department within the last ten days. The first was the defeat of the .15 mill levy which made possible the department's extensive program; the second was the resignation of Miss Sophie Fishback as the department's director. If Lakewood today is a city without a crime problem, let us pin the badge of achievement on Miss Fishback who has kept its youth wholesome by her intelligent, untiring efforts."

This is a tribute to the entire recreation profession, testifying as it does to the values of the contribution trained leadership can make to a community.

in automobile trips taken by children. Nearly all children enjoy sightseeing. The desire to travel is one of their most fundamental ambitions. Surely the country should be enough interested to get out some sort of directory of the best sights of America so that children may not pass them by without seeing them."

"Uncle Sam is directly interested in our driving. It is the highways that tie a country together and make us a single nation. The man who has traveled over America is likely to be a more intelligent, loyal citizen than the man who has always remained in one locality."



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## Recreation in the Years to Come

(Continued from page 484)

the caterpillar hasn't been born at all. The caterpillar has walked around but his birth hasn't occurred yet. He is an organism that is merely doing a little eating in preparation for being born. In this country our civilization has done three hundred years of eating and growing fat in preparation for birth. It is a dangerous process; we may not complete it successfully. Things we do not understand are going on. We are making what the psychologists call random motions, kicking out in different directions to find the boundaries of our universe. That is what we mean by the "pin-feather" stage of the New Deal experimentation, trying to see what we can do and what we can't do. We may have setbacks. We don't know. We don't know where we are coming out but we know the direction in which our destiny is moving. The destiny is perfectly definite to an engineer. It is the impact of an irresistible force on a body that is not immovable. The irresistible force is the knowledge that human beings have and that cannot be put back into the bottle; the knowledge that Aladdin's lamp has been discovered; that the

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power to create immense quantities of goods by magic is in our hands. We know we can do it, and so many of us know how to do it that the knowledge can't be lost.

### Into the Golden Age

That is one side of the electric potential that constitutes the force of our destinies. The other side is the age-old desire of humanity for plenty, for ease, for security, for comfort. For half a million years, or whatever you want to call it, for a large number of generations, the human race, almost all the lives of all our forebears have been lived in scarcity, poverty, and constant danger of humiliation and despair. We have dreamed of the Golden Age. We have dreamed of the time when we could turn a button and magic things would happen. We have come to that time. We are turning buttons and putting raw materials in at one end and out the other end come all kinds of interesting things done up in cellophane.

Under those circumstances we have now come to the beginning of civilization. What that civilization will be we don't know. We are the primitives. How should we know? We don't know any more about what civilization will be two hun-

dred years from now than the Argonauts knew about the Parthenon. The thing that we have done is to find the material basis for civilization and a few little preliminary glimpses of possible arts of living. Among those arts are the beginnings of the art of recreation as Americans will do it. What it will be we don't know. Probably it will be something different from what we might suppose, but we can at least recognize that the makings of a civilization are now in primitive form in our hands. The makings of this civilization involve the prospect of a long continuance of physical plenty and an unruly, irresponsible, mixed group of people who will be hard to hold, who will refuse to obey laws, and who have the marvelous technique for not obeying regulations which was brought to perfection under the prohibition law—people on whom you can count to wiggle out of any sort of an attempt to regiment them.

Having that sort of American people and the Age of Plenty, all we need to do now is to arrange our institutions in such a way that our people will be able to enjoy plenty, and then watch us go. Where? Who cares? That is not for us to worry about. All we need to worry about is that we should have freedom, opportunities, and facilities and that in so far as possible we should direct the beginnings of our civilization into ways that have some possibility of turning out to be fruitful and desirable.

Among those various things and in a situation of that kind, where activity of all sorts is increasing, where opportunities for doing the things that people want to do are increasing, numerous leaders will be necessary, and in a situation of that kind you will find a growing field for your operations in the future.

NOTE: Mr. Coyle's address was delivered at the Recreation Congress held in Chicago September 30-October 5.

### When Recreation Executives Meet

(Continued from page 499)

ment has installed its own water system in three of the parks thereby cutting down the water bill by two-thirds. In wooded areas where there are shrubbery groups, plantings and flower beds have been rearranged so that the mowing can be done by tractors. If a baseball field is built by relief workers it is possible to keep it in repair through the labor of relief workers. In Mr. McDonald's judgment the maintenance of the facility is just

as much the obligation of the emergency agency as the construction of the facility or the putting on of the program for its use.

"I have been greatly discouraged about the public works program at times; at other times I have looked at it as the greatest thing that has ever come to our city. So let's look at the program, study it with respect to our needs, and instead of saying, 'Why in the world did they do this?' or 'Why didn't they do that?' let's say, 'What is it our system needs that this program will give us?'"

Speaking of the workers made available through the emergency agencies, Mr. McDonald said: "In our cities we have had splendid work from FERA and CWA workers in the construction of the bath houses and buildings we have put up. The cement work, the curbs and gutters that have been constructed show just as good workmanship as that done by contractors. When you make a mule out of a man and put him on a wheelbarrow job you won't have efficiency; when you put him on a job when he can see something definite as a result of his work, you will get efficiency." Mr. McDonald also commented on the value of the work done in Kansas by the FERA recreation workers. "Those of you who know anything about western Kansas know that life there has been a pretty sordid thing during the last few years. And I want to tell you that these workers in going from town to town and preaching the doctrine of recreation have done more in the year they were carrying on activities than has ever been done before in our state."

### The Enlarged Recreation Service of the National Parks

(Continued from page 502)

believe that we are going places and doing things, thanks to the fine spirit of cooperation we have received from the states and the realization of the part of everyone of the real necessity for proper recreation facilities and leadership in their use.

The day is here when recreation is no longer a luxury; it is a necessity. It will never go back to the luxury stage; it is here and here to stay.

There is under consideration by the administration a bill which will permit the National Park Service to continue in its cooperation with the states and the political subdivisions in unifying and in working out the recreation problem, in getting Illinois and Iowa, Mississippi and Louisi-

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ana, and all the other states together in developing a recreation program that will adequately take care of our people.

NOTE: Address delivered by Mr. Wirth at the Recreation Congress at Chicago.

### Hartford's Racial Culture Program

*(Continued from page 507)*

as a permanent recreational project. From the outset and all during the presentations, the division had the hearty cooperation of Mayor Beach and other city officials, particularly Alderman Frank C. Tindale, chairman of the Mayor's Tercentenary Committee, whose assistance and coordination with Mr. Dillon aided materially in the promotion and presentation of the programs.

### Vocational Guidance Through the Organized Club

*(Continued from page 511)*

d. Research activity by committees in different fields.

e. Talks by employed members about their industries.

f. Program of coordination with home, church, school and industry through invitation to ministers, teachers, principals, employers, and parents to talk at meetings; to act on the club adult advisory committee; to secure significant school data, and to make available to the home and school the data secured through the club and where possible conference with other agencies involved to unify the guidance program.

It is not to be assumed from the preceding comments that the writer thinks the club the only effective instrument in gaining the stated objectives. On the contrary, it must be definitely understood that the club is but a supplementary and complementary agency whose very effectiveness depends upon continuous close relationships with all the institutions in our highly complex modern society. The club is simply another agency whose primary function is cooperation. The club supervisor who fails to recognize this misses completely the real values of the club as a help in the "life advisement" process.

## Safety Teaching Material for the Recreation Director

The Education Division of the National Safety Council publishes a variety of material designed to aid in the teaching of safety on the playground or in the school. We recommend the following:

**SAFETY EDUCATION MAGAZINE**—A monthly publication containing colored posters, graded lesson outlines, short plays and stories, informational articles, etc.

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**THE JUNIOR SAFETY COUNCIL**—A handbook of safety activities containing practical program suggestions, patrol organization and references.

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**PLAYGROUND PACKET**—A collection of safety material for the playground director. Contains 10 colored safety posters, a safety play, crayon lessons and instructions for the safe use of playground equipment.

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**Education Division, National Safety Council**

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## New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

### Active Games and Contests

By Bernard S. Mason and E. D. Mitchell. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. \$3.00.

**H**ERE IN one volume are over 1800 games and contests covering the field of active play. The activities are classified according to contests between individuals; contests between groups; team games, and water, winter and mounted activities. The book is a companion volume to *SOCIAL GAMES FOR RECREATION*, which was reviewed in the June issue of *RECREATION*. Recreation workers will find both books exceedingly helpful.

### Our U. S. A.—A Gay Geography

Text by Frank J. Taylor. Maps by Ruth Taylor. Little, Brown and Company, Boston. \$3.50.

**A** GAY GEOGRAPHY indeed is this volume in which our American land and American life are described by states in words and in brightly colored maps presenting the characteristics of the life and physical features of the various states. For readers young and old there is amusement and information. Those who wish to use the book for educational purposes will find it in line with the latest attitude toward geography which considers human beings and their activities as the center of geographical interest.

### Children of the Handcrafts

By Carolyn Sherwin Bailey. The Viking Press, New York. \$2.00.

**H**ERE ARE fascinating stories of boys and girls who played a part in the development of crafts in our country; of little Rebecca Lefferts stitching her star and crescent quilt; of Duncan Phye who came to America as a small boy; Paul Revere, the silversmith, and of Macock Ward, the boy apprentice to the clock-making trade in old Connecticut. Grace Paull made the attractive lithographs which illustrate the book.

### Leisure Time Bibliography

By Fred J. Schmidt, Jr. Industrial Arts Department, Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa. \$1.00.

**A**S INTEREST in hobbies and avocations grow, it is increasingly important to have available sources of information in the many varied subjects in the field of hobbies. This guide to books and magazine articles pertaining to leisure time and to avocational interests related to industrial arts education provides a comprehensive bibliography on handcraft of various types and arts and other cultural interests. There is a brief section devoted to outstanding books on leisure in general.

### Crafts for Children

By R. R. Tomlinson. The Studio Publications, Inc., New York. Paper bound, \$3.50; cloth, \$4.50.

**H**ERE IS A fascinating publication on crafts made doubly attractive by the beautiful illustrations of which there are over a hundred. The discussion deals with a definition of crafts and how they have been practiced and taught in the past, followed by chapters on Craft Teaching Today; Craft Teaching in Many Lands; Principles; Methods, and Summary and Conclusions. "In this machine age," concludes the author, "when all is speed and bustle, let us take care that we do not develop in our children streamlined minds lest they be not able to tarry by the way."

### How to Ride Your Hobby

By A. Frederick Collins. D. Appleton-Century Company, New York. \$2.00.

**M**R. COLLINS has given us a very stimulating book on hobbies, their values, how to safeguard them, and how to ride them. The information—and there are a multitude of practical suggestions—is presented in popular readable style. The material is classified under the following headings: Some Collecting Hobbies; Some Plant Hobbies; Some Animal Hobbies; The Manual Arts Hobbies; Model-Making Hobbies; The Fine Arts Hobbies; The Photographic Arts Hobbies; About Musical Hobbies; A Few Amusement Hobbies; A Few Entertainment Hobbies; Scientific Hobbies. There are many diagrams throughout the book. We venture to state that any hobbyist looking for information about his pet project will not be disappointed.

### Organized Camping and Progressive Education

By Carlos Edgar Ward. Informal Education Service, Nashville, Tennessee. \$2.00.

**T**HE AUTHOR's purpose in writing this volume has been to provide a source book of helpful practices and processes for counselors and camp directors and to bring to parents a more understanding interest in the possibilities and limitations of organized camping. It has been written in three parts, each designed to serve a distinct purpose: Part I, to sketch a picture of the movement in the setting up of American civilized life; Part II, to bring the reader a close-up of actual camping experiences; Part III, to evaluate the organized camp in the light of modern social science and educational theory.

**Home Handicraft for Boys.**

By A. Neely Hall. J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia, \$2.00.

The new and enlarged edition of this popular book contains over 400 illustrations. Any boy can follow the clear directions given which will show him how to make games, airplanes, boats, furniture for his room, garden gadgets and things for the kitchen, pantry and laundry. It is indeed "a splendid book for every boy from eight to eighty."

**America's Story As Told in Postage Stamps.**

By Edward Monington Allen. Whittlesey House, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York. \$2.50.

It may not be generally known that almost every important event in American history has been commemorated by the government in the form of a special issue of postage stamps. From the early, almost legendary voyages of the Vikings to the Byrd Antarctic Expedition and the California Pacific International Exposition, the course of American history has been rather fully illustrated in stamps. *America's Story As Told in Postage Stamps* charts the course of our history and ingeniously employs these commemorative stamps to illustrate the record. There are special frames in which the reader may affix real stamps to illustrate the text, and great care has been taken to select for this purpose only those stamps which may be purchased very reasonably. It is the hope of the author that the book will help every boy and girl who delights in collecting stamps to a better understanding of our nation's history. Adults as well as children will find the book keenly interesting. And one need not be a stamp collector to enjoy it.

**How to Watch Football.**

By Lou Little. McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York. \$2.50.

In this book the reader watches a typical college football game with Lou Little, head coach at Columbia University, who explains as the game progresses the significance of the various plays, rulings and strategems. In addition Mr. Little includes a brief outline of his own methods of building a team. The reader will enjoy future games the more for having read Mr. Little's explanation of technique and the fine points of the game which the average spectator ordinarily misses.

**Party Book of Songs, Stunts and Games.**

Edited by Kenneth S. Clark. Paull-Pioneer Music Corporation, New York. \$25; West of the Rockies, \$30.

Mr. and Mrs. America and their family are invited to "sing, play and be happy" with this collection of songs, stunts and games. There are 50 songs with music arranged for harmonica and guitar. For many of these songs Mr. Clark has gone back to the days of "The Sidewalks of New York," "Daisy Bell" and others of this same type. The games, which cover a wide variety of activities, are arranged under the following headings: Out-You-Go Games; Let's Get Active; Quickies and Tests; Paper and Pencil Games; The Word's the Thing; Match and Coin Stunts; Acting 'Em Out.

**Water Sports for Women and Girls.**

Spalding's Athletic Library. No. 125R. \$25.

Official rules for swimming and diving are given in this new publication in the series of athletic activities for women and girls. The booklet also contains full information on national telegraphic meets and a number of articles on water sports. A list of motion picture films on swimming, diving and life saving is included and there are a number of bibliographies.

**American Planning and Civic Annual.**

Edited by Harlean James. American Planning and Civic Association, Union Trust Building, Washington, D. C. Free to members; to non-members, \$3.00.

The American Planning and Civic Association, which represents the union of the American Civic Association and the National Conference on City Planning, announces the publication of its Annual. This consists of a record of recent civic advance, including the proceedings of the Conference on City, Regional, State and National Planning held at Cincinnati in May 1935, and addresses selected from the National Conference on State Parks held at Skyland, Virginia, June 1935. Over eighty individuals have contributed to this volume which contains a number of photographs showing views of national and state parks and governmental projects.

**Fun and Festival from Latin America.**

By Helen Garvin. Friendship Press, New York. \$25.

Here are fascinating glimpses of the fun and festivals which characterize the vast region to the south of us. They bring us a realization of the richness of Latin America culture, its folkways and manner of life. Patriotic and religious festivals are described, and there is a section on music and one on drama. Information is given on the games and sports engaged in, and we learn of the food which is served at teas and suppers. A bibliography completes the booklet.

**Embroidery Design.**

By Molly Booker. The Studio Publications, Inc., New York City. \$3.50.

Good design is essential to the promotion of beautiful work in embroidery. It is not, however, as the author points out, as difficult a problem as it is sometimes made to appear. The book gives definite suggestions on how to make a design, and also discusses embroidery in general, materials and method, and stitchery. An analysis of fifteen works in embroidery is presented. There are over thirty interesting illustrations.

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# Can You Answer These Questions?

- In what ways is human nature different under conditions of economic security? How will economic security affect the demand for recreational and cultural activities? What will be the characteristics of recreation in the years to come?

*See pages 479 - 484*

- Mention six problems which are of primary importance to recreation executives at just this time.

*See pages 485 - 489*

- Give a definition of adult education; of recreation. How may cooperation between the two best be developed? How far is it possible to draw a line of demarcation between them?

*See pages 485, 486, 493, 494 and 497*

- Mention some of the methods which have been developed for dealing with juvenile delinquents. What are some of the arguments for and against providing recreation for delinquents in their own groups rather than with other children?

*See pages 486 - 487*

- Mention the eight general headings under which problems and functions of recreation may be grouped for the purpose of planning a recreation training program. Suggest a sample program for a recreation institute in which these eight headings have been included.

*See pages 488 - 489*

- Outline the functions of the community council as an aid to the local recreation movement. What are the values of such a lay council? How may councils be set up?

*See pages 490 - 491*

- Is permanent federal aid for public recreation desirable? What are some of the changes such a policy would involve? What might be the effect on well operated municipal recreation systems?

*See pages 491 - 492*

- What special techniques may be used in dealing with the problem of unemployed youth?

*See page 498*

- How far is it possible to make use of fees and charges in helping to finance the recreation program in an economic depression? For what activities and facilities are charges being made in some cities?

*See pages 498 - 499*

- What is the National Park Service? Trace its development during the emergency period. What does the future hold in the maintenance and administration of park areas?

*See pages 500 - 502*

- Through what means may the racial traditions represented in a city be made vital and effective in contributing to citizenship? How may racial culture be preserved?

*See pages 506 - 507*

- For what reasons is the organized club important as a guidance center? Mention the possibilities for vocational guidance in the development of hobbies. List six practical steps necessary to assure the effective execution of guidance through the club.

*See pages 508 - 511*

- What steps may be taken to organize a hiking club for women? What are some of the values of such a club?

*See pages 512 - 513*

## Adventuring in the Arts

THE VICTORIAN age left as part of its heritage to the twentieth century a cloud of misunderstanding concerning the arts and their place in life. It had forgotten that to be artistically literate meant to be able to use the arts as a means of self-expression. To it the artist was someone set apart, self-dedicated to his art, not one aspect of all of us. To know rather than to do was the object of education in the arts. Thus it thought that the study of a play had educational value but the acting of it none; that being musical meant being able to execute a reasonable number of piano pieces by heart; that the height of artistic education was the production of the connoisseur; and that while to quote from Horace or Browning was a proof of literary accomplishment, to write poems oneself was merely a pleasant pastime.

"All this is altering—in theory at least; but the shades of such an attitude still tend to rest upon our view of what education in the arts should be. For the change of standpoint is radical. The modern world believes that artistic literacy is possible to almost every one of us in each of the arts; that appreciation and creation cannot really be divorced from one another, so that properly to understand an art we need to be able to perform it ourselves; and finally that a sound and balanced personality must have an emotional outlet in some form of creative and artistic self-expression."

—From *"The Coming of Leisure—The Problem in England,"*  
published by New Education Fellowship, London, England.